# 



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# STOP STABBINGS

Report by Richard Guttridge

# A KNIFE surrender bin will be placed in Dudley as police take action following a series of stabbings in the borough.

Police chiefs are to place the bin in a town centre location after the borough was shocked by three stabbings

ough was snocked by three stabblings in eight days last month.

There are already bins in place in Wolverhampton and Sandwell and another is planned for Walsall to encourage the collection and destruction of weapons.

Police believe the bins are useful tools in the bins of the believe the bins are useful tools in the bins of the

Fonce believe the bins are useful tools in helping to tackle knife crime, which gives peo-ple the opportunity to help rid the streets of knives without fear of recrimination. Mansoor Mahmood, aged 24, died after being knifed in Brierley Hill High Street. It

came after stabbings in Lower Gornal and Sedgley.
Police and Crime Commissioner David Jamieson said a knife bin would be placed in bin would be placed in Dudley within weeks, after proving success-ful elsewhere in the Black Country. More than 140 weap-

Victim – Mr Mahmood ons – including axes, swords and knives – have been recovered from the latest opening of surrender bins in the West Midlands.

Police revealed the secure bin on Dunstall Road in Whitmore Reans, Wolverhampton, had the highest number of dumped weapons with 54 blades.

## Zombie

These included three swords and the kind of vicious 'zombie' knife that has been recently outlawed

Mr Jamieson said the key to tackling knife

Mr Jamieson said the key to tackling knife crime was getting the message through to children when they are at a young age that carrying knives was unacceptable.

He said: "We are determined to take tough action against the sort of people who are carrying knives. The really sad thing is that most of the offenders are boys in their teens and the victims are boys in their teens and aged up to 24.

24.

"We can't arrest our way out of the problems.
A lot of boys who find themselves in problems lack a father figure and find themselves drifting

into gangs.
"We need to look at children when they are nine to 13, and educate them and to get them to understand the consequences of carrying

"The very simple message is if you carry a knife the chances are someone will use a knife on you."

# SYSTEMS GO FOR GAMER ON GADGET SHOW



Nick Browne, of the Vintage Gamer shop in Halesowen, who is to have a major role in Channel 5's The Gadget Show at Christmas

A RETRO video game specialist from the Black Country will feature on Channel 5's Gadget Show over the festive period.
Nick Browne, owner of Vintage Gamer shop, was approached by the team behind The Gadget Show. They then spent over two hours filming him and around his shop in Halesowen.

The Codget Show, now in its 24th series.

Halesowen.

The Gadget Show, now in its 24th series, puts both old and new gadgets through their

paces.
The team filmed Nick discussing which forgotten gaming gems could be hidden away

in people's lofts and also took a look at all things Pokemon Go. They also spoke on the advances in console gaming along with some of Nick's own tips and advice, which will be screened on December 21.

Nick said: "It was very surreal to have them come over and film. I think it'll be a little cringe to watch myself but it'll be great as I've never been on TV before."

"The presenter, Jason (Bradbury), asked me what prized possessions I've got that's

me what prized possessions I've got that's rare and expensive so I told him about a game I've got which is ridiculously rare. The game

was originally for the Nintendo NES console and is called Duck Tales, based on the Disney film.

"There's only 150 numbered games in the world and 20 that aren't numbered as they were the first original batch. To find one is ridiculously hard but I've got three – one numbered and two from the original batch. I'm on the hunt for more even ethough the last one I bought cost me nearly £1,500."

Nick opened his first gaming shop in 2013

Nick opened his first gaming shop in 2013 before moving to his current premises in 2014 which is home to a video game arcade.

# COLLISION

# Man in court over car crash tragedy

A 24-year-old man has appeared in court over the death of a teenage girl who was killed in a crash in Dudley. Georgia Ann Evans, aged 18, from Him-

ley, died in the crash involving her Ford Fi-esta and an Audi on Priory Road in Dudley. Kuba Oles, of Beaconview Road, West

Bromwich, who is charged with causing death by dangerous driving, appeared at Wolverhampton Crown Court on Monday, but did not enter a plea.

He is due to appear again at the same court on January 9.

## **DEATH**

# Body of missing pensioner found

THE body of a missing pensioner has been found in a fishing pool.

West Midlands Police had been searching for 75-year-old William Jew-kes from Sedgley after he was last seen opening a church for a mother and toddler group.

On Friday police confirmed that his body had been found in the pool on Parkes Hall Road, Dudley, at 12.28pm. His death is not being treated as suspicious and Mr Jewkes' family has been informed.

# **FOOTBALL**

# Glassboys ready to make FA Cup history

THERE will be a capacity crowd at the War

THERE will be a capacity crowd at the War Memorial ground in Amblecote on Sunday for Stourbridge's FA Cup second round tie with Northampton Town.

The Glassboys will play League One outfit Northampton at 2pm as they aim to reach the third round proper for the first time in their history. More than 2,000 supporters will watch Gary Hackett's side take on the Cobblers with the potential reward of a lucrative glamour tie in the next round. of a lucrative glamour tie in the next round

More than 400 away fans will be making the trip from the East Midlands.

Sport – see page 44

# INSIDE

# KE'S TRIP INTO THE PAST



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# Road concern raised after fatal crash

A STRETCH of road in Shropshire where a Black Country motorcyclist died is to come under scrutiny after a coroner vowed to write to highways chiefs about it.

Halesowen motorcyclist Jason Gardener, a welder, died when his Suzuki motorbike collided

with a Toyota Rav 4 on the Stourbridge Road be-

which a Toylott law 4 on the Executing Relatives the tween Six Ashes and Bridgmorth.

John Ellery, coroner for Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin, said he would write to Shropshire Council's traffic safety manager at the conclusion of an

inquest on the fatal accident on the A458.

Mr Gardener, a 43-year old welder, who lived at Hawne Lane, crashed at the junction of the

Stourbridge Road with Woodyard Lane on May 15. He died of multiple injuries, the inquest held at Shrewsbury was told last week.

Mr Ellery heard from witnesses that the day had been clear and visibility good on the stretch

## Dangerous

Matthew Timmins, from Perton, near Wolverhampton, had been behind the Rav 4 as it prepared to pull out of Woodyard Lane onto the A458.
"I know how dangerous that junction is so I hung back," said Mr Timmins. "Just as he was turning right, that was when the accident occurred.

"I heard a huge noise and saw the bike hit the

car and spin in a clockwise motion down the road.
That junction is horrendous."

In summing up, Mr Ellery said: "This is a junction that is a matter of concern. I will write to Brian Williams, traffic safety manager at Shropshire Council, about this.

"The appropriate conclusion is one of a road traffic collision."

The driver of the car, John Launchbury, de-

The driver of the car, John Laurenbury, declined to give evidence at the inquest.
Collision investigator, PC Chris Duffer, said that it was impossible to say how fast Mr Gardener been travelling prior to the accident.

# Fury over 'nonsense' health survey figures

DUDLEY is the unhealthiest place in the UK followed by Walsall in second and Wolverhampton in sixth, according to figures

from... a gambling company.

Dudley Council bosses have hit back, saying the figures are 'nonsense'.

Walsall Council has reported Sports Betting Online, which compiled the figures, to the national health watchdog.

ting Online, which compiled the figures, to the national health watchdog.

The figures show the number of gyms, McDonald's restaurants, swimming pools, sports clubs, sporting events, public parks and cycle routes – all per 100,000 people.

Dudley was found to have the worst gym to population ratio with just three per 100,000. Walsall topped the statistics for the ratio of McDonald's outlets to people, with 14 per 100,000.

Local authorities have rubbished the statistics, which they say has been compiled with 'little knowledge' of the region.

Dudley has at least 20 gyms, including eight outdoor, with a population of around 300,000. This means its ratio of gym to people should be around six to 100,000, not the three to 100,000 suggested by the figures.

While also including Stourbridge and Coseley, Dudley has six McDonald's restaurants. This means the ratio would be around three to 100,000, not the ten to 100,000 suggested by the figures.

## Unhelpful

Councillor Rachel Harris, cabinet mem-

Councillor Rachel Harris, cabinet member for health and wellbeing in Dudley, says the town has 81 fast food outlets per 100,000.

She said: "National surveys such as this are unhelpful and confusing for people as they are often based on little knowledge of an area or the hard work that goes on. In

an area or the hard work that goes on. In Dudley we have a very active programme of work to promote healthy lifestyles and tackle obesity.

"There are eight free outdoor gyms to use in our parks which accompany a packed programme of physical activity and healthy cooking sections are healthy to the cooking sections."

programme of physical activity and nearthy cooking sessions run by our dedicated staff, "Add to that our successful walking for health, the daily mile in schools, disability sports provision, exercise referral, Dudley food for health and the Dudley rowing programmes, it is clear to see we are working very hard to encourage people of all ages to lead fit and healthy lifestyles."

# Parents protest in support of warden



Parents and children join follipop lady Gail Maiden at the protest calling for crossing wardens to be retained

ANGRY parents have stepped up their opposition to Dudley Coun-cil's plans to scrap school crossing patrols.

Around 30 parents protested out-side Quarry Bank Primary School against the funding withdrawal for lollipop wardens in the borough.

Placards were held by concerned mums and dads, reading 'child safety not council cuts'.

Jennifer Walker, whose six-old-year old daughter attends the school, organised the campaign.

She said: "We are aware that Quarry Bank is one of the busiest roads in the borough and we were extremely upset that the council even thought of cutting it as it serves the school directly." serves the school directly.

"Gail, who has been our lollipop lady for more than 15 years, is a staple in the school – she is abso-lutely golden and is there rain or

"We are a thoroughfare for all nearby places in the Black Country and traffic can be very heavy. All

parents are really concerned about this, crossing patrols should be sacrosanct."

Dudley Council currently funds the school crossing service but say the continuing reductions in funding from central government has prompted a review of the service in an effort to save £395,000.

The local authority is not legally required to fund the service and is suggesting alternatives, including schools funding the patrols them-

# **Etheridge** is given top **UKIP** post by new boss

EURO MP and Sedgley councillor Bill Etheridge was this week appointed to UKIP's top team just hours after new leader Paul Nuttall replaced Nigel

Farage.

Mr Etheridge, an MEP and and Dudley Council member, is his party's new defence spokesman.

He said: "I am excited and it is a great

"It is an area where the party will make a big difference as it is our policy for a big increase in spending. I'm a big believer of the phrase 'peace through strength'."

strength'."

Mr Etheridge pulled out of the UKIP leadership contest to back Mr Nuttall, a personal friend. Merseysider Mr Nuttall won with more than 60 per cent of the vote from UKIP members.

Mr Etheridge said the party will be targeting the Black Country and Labour voters.

"Paul really sees the Black Country and the West Midlands as somewhere that has been let down by the traditional parties," he said.

"As a region it overwhelmingly backed the campaign to leave the EU. Those people are looking for a voice and UKIP will be that voice for them."

The election was the second in a few months, following previous victor Diane James's decision to step down after just 18 days in the job

18 days in the job.

Mr Nuttall took 62.6 per cent of the vote, beating former deputy chairwoman Suzanne Evans, and ex-soldier John Re-

# 90-year-old dies in road accident

A 90-YEAR-OLD man was knocked over and killed on the busy A449 near Wombourne, just yards from his home. Two men have been arrested in connection with the incident.

Frederick Dudley, of Bearnett Drive, Upper Penn, was reportedly struck by a black VW Scirocco travelling towards Himley on the Stourbridge Road, near the Miller & Carter restaurant.

A 27-year-old from Wolverhampton and a 25-year-old from Kingswinford have been arrested over offences connected with the incident and given bail. Eyewitness Paul Smith, of Lloyd

Eyewitness Paul Smith, of Lloyd nyewitness Paul Smith, of Lloyd Drive, comforted Mr Dudley as he lay dying in the road. He said the victim had just got off a bus. Witnesses should call Staffordshire Police on 101 quoting incident 570.

# **Five Guys arrive at** Merry Hill centre

POPULAR burger chain Five Guys has opened at Merry Hill shopping centre, creating 35 jobs. It is the American restaurant's first outlet in the Black Country, after arriving at Birmingham's Bullring. Five Guys Burger and Fries first opened in the USA 30 years ago.

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# new leisure centres is key factor

TWO new leisure centres will need to be within easy reach of everyone in Dudley borough, the council's regeneration boss savs

Controversial plans to close the

Controversial plans to close the borough's three existing centres and replace them with two new facilities were revealed last month.

Dudley Council regeneration boss Councillor Khurshid Ahmed said that he expected one of the centres to be in Dudley, which meant it was important that the other, that is likely to be in the south of the borough, could be accessed easily. accessed easily.

If that was the case, it would mean either Stourbridge or Halesowen would be left without a leisure centre.

Hundreds have signed a petition calling for the plans to be scrapped.

Mr Ahmed said: "If we go from three to two, which is likely, we have got to make sure there is connectivity and they are easily accessible.

# Struggle

"It needs to be within 20 minutes commuting time. Anything beyond that and you struggle to get people to

In response to the council's move, former councillor and cabinet member for environment and leisure, Tracy Wood, set up the The Save Our Leisure Centres campaign. So far 1,400 people have backed it.

"I'm going to continue building the campaign and putting pressure on the council to prevent the leisure centres from closing," she added.

Councillor Ahmed said no decision had been made yet and a full report would be going to the council's next cabinet meeting.

# GP accused of sex attacks on patients

A GP has been accused of sex attacks on three of his patients, police have revealed.

Dr Jaswant Rathore has been charged with 10 counts of sexual as

charged with 10 counts of sexual as-sault and will appear before Walsall magistrates on December 23. West Midlands Police said last night charges against the 58-year-old, of Ploughmans Walk, Wall Heath, related to alleged offences against three of his patients.

of his patients.

Dr Rathore, who works at a surgery in the Dudley area, previously served as Dudley Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) clinical executive for fi-

Group (CCG) clinical executive for fi-nance and business intelligence.
Dr David Hegarty, chair of Dudley CCG, confirmed on Friday that Dr Rathore was no longer a board mem-ber at the CCG. He left the board on December 31, 2015.
A West Midlands Police spokesman said: "Specialist officers are support-ing the victims and we would urge anybody else with information to call 101 or contact Crimestoppers anony-mously on 0800 555 111."

# Location of Auction sale for historic former chapel



The chapel in Netherton dates from 1810

A FORMER chapel in Netherton has been put on the market for a guide price in excess of £75,000.

price in excess of £75,000.

The Old Chapel, in St Giles Street, will go up for auction with property consultancy firm SDL Bigwood on Thursday, December 8.

The chapel was built in 1810 and was still in use by Champions Church until their new building was opened in Cinder Bank in 2010 to house its growing congregation.

growing congregation.

Auctioneer Ron Darlington said the old chapel expected to create 'a lot of

He explained: "The congregation from the chapel have a new church

balcony. To the rear is a preparation room, kitchen and large 'L' shaped from the chapel have a new church now not too far away.

"They have been using this building since it was built as a chapel but unfortunately over the years it has fallen into a state of disrepair."

He added: "The hall itself is of a reasonable size and I think that there will be a lot of interest in it. It could even be converted into flats.

Champions Church currently run a weekly soun kitchen at the hall every room, kitchen and large 'L' shaped store room. Additions have been made to the building over its 200 year his-

weekly soup kitchen at the hall every Tuesday evening for people in need. The building includes offices and a

driveway which would provide parking for four to six vehicles.

The property is in need of extensive modernisation and refurbishment throughout.

The auction will take place at Villa

There is also a forecourt and side

# Actor gives sneak peak of TV plan

STARS of Peaky Blinders are due to return to Dudley in March when film-ing of the gangster drama resumes. Star of the hit TV series, actor Cil-

Star of the hit TV series, actor Cil-lian Murphy, confirmed that work on series four starts in the spring, when he was interviewed at the premiere of new movie Free Fire. The story of Brummie gangsters

is set between the wars and much of the filming takes place at the Black Country Living Museum, on Tipton Road. Peaky Blinders has become an international hit and inspired a fash-ion craze for 1920s haircuts and caps.

# New officers to fight cyber crime

WEST Midlands Police will take on 200 officers to specifically tackle cyber crime.

The recruits will be in addition to 800 new officers set to join the force by 2020.

Police and Crime Commissioner David Jamieson has made tackling cyber crime one of his key priorities over the next four years as part of his police and crime plan.

Mr Jamieson said cyber crime, such as fraud and terrorism, was one of the biggest challenges facing the force today.

# Veteran singer's town hall date

VETERAN singer and actress Anita

VETEKAN singer and actress Anita Harris is to appear in a music hall show in Dudley.

The matinee performance of The Good Old Days of Variety is taking place in Dudley Town Hall on March 14 at 2m.

place in Dudley Town Hall on March 14 at 2pm.
The 74-year-old entertainer ap-peared in two Carry On movies, had hit records in the 1960s and was a star of the 1981 Royal Variety Perfor-mance. Tickets cost £12, call (01384) 812812.

# Cars, HGV and tyres in scrap yard blaze

FIREFIGHTERS tackled a scrap yard blaze in Lye which saw cars, an HGV and more than 30 tyres alight.

and more than 30 tyres alight.
The incident happened near to the Lye Valley Industrial Estate, in Bromley Street, on Friday evening.
Two Crews from Brierley Hill and one from Haden Cross attended.
A West Midlands Fire Service spokesman said: "Scrap metal, 30 tyres, several cars and a HGV were alight. Luckily nobody was injured. We left at 8.34pm."

# Winter sun warning

A FIRE service spokesman has warned motorists about the risk of being dazzled by the low in the sky winter sun after an accident in King swinford on Friday.

A taxi crashed into the back of

a lorry on Market Street just after 11am. No one was injured.

# Hospital consider alarms after fatal fall from bed

bed or chair alarms for some elderly patients after a 96-year-old woman died after falling from a bed in Rus-

sells Hall Hospital.
Thelma McDermott also hit her head

against a bin as she fell from a bed on which rails had been lowered. An inquest heard that Mrs McDermott suffered an acute subdural hematoma in an suffered an acute subdural hematoma in an emergency care ward on August 25, after being taken to the hospital for the second time in two days. The first was after falling in her room at Prestwood House Nursing Home, near Stourbridge, and the second after staff at the home

brouge, and the second mer scan a me home became worried about her condition. After the fall in hospital nurses rushed to Mrs McDermott's aid. Doctors agreed her in-juries were too severe for her to be saved. She was taken back to Prestwood House, where she

was taken back to Prestwood House, where she died on August 29.

Cannock Coroner's Court heard that Mrs McDermott had been on a bed with the rails down and at 4.36am a loud crash was heard. She was found on the floor with a laceration on her head. She was taken for a CT scan and found to have an acute subdural hematoma.

# Attention

Attention

It was suggested she may have been reaching for pull-cord to get a nurse's attention when the fall happened.

Nurse Martin Gallagher said that Mrs McDermott had been given anti-slip socks and the rails had been lowered on her bed for safety reasons. He said: "The rails are not on the bed to restrain patients, they are there to stop patients rolling over the side and falling out in their sleep. There was no explanation as to why she had fallen. She was in a confused state."

Jane Pugh, lead nurse for the emergency care department, said: "The hospital is currently investigating whether more formal risk assessments should be made and whether bed or chair alarms should be installed."

Senior Coroner for South Staffordshire, Andrew Haigh, said that Mrs McDermott was generally in good health but did suffer from dementia. "The fall and the head injury is a significant factor. This was not a natural death." he said. "I don't order the hospital to carry out a further report as I have already heard that staff are looking at different options."

He delivered a narrative conclusion, saying Mrs McDermott was unwell and had a fall.

He delivered a narrative conclusion, saying Mrs McDermott was unwell and had a fall.



One of the Dudley Council vans is pulled out of the canal Picture by Dean Cartwright

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# vans are dumped in canal Kingswinford on November 11. They ended up in the canal near Cinder Bank roundabout. Rescue vehicles were called to the towpath to pull the council vans out of the canal. The vans will be useless after having been totally

THIEVES stole vans used to help the elderly and disabled in Dudley and dumped them in a canal.

The vans were stolen from the Dudley Council depot in Kingswinford on November 11. They ended up in

Council

after having been totally submerged with only a van roof to be seen poking out of the water before they were hauled back onto dry land.

# Senseless

Councillor Qadar Zada, cabinet member for adult social care at the council, said: "This is a senseless and appalling crime, to steal two vans used for transporting equipment to the elderly and disabled. "I am disgusted that they

have targeted the most vul-nerable in our community and we take this very seri-

cil's service to the elderly and disabled would continue as normal.







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# THE BEST OF RHODES



A BBC reporter covering the Autumn Statement assured us that the Government's plan to pay off the deficit by 2020 is now on the shelf and out of the window.

HEINZ produced a TV advert showing HEINZ produced a IV advert showing how to play a tune using empty baked-bean tins. But after receiving just nine complaints about the alleged danger of kids cutting themselves on sharp edges, the Advertising Standards Authority has banned it. However, since the ban was announced, the ad, and variations of it, have gone viral with just three YouTube videos attracting between them more than two million viewers. So nine complainers and the ASA ban have given Heinz more publicity than it could have dreamed of. In this internet age, banz meanz viewerz.

YET another bunch of parents and kids have been disappointed when a day trip to see Santa turned out to be a tent in a waterlogged field, this time in Derbyshire. But the giveaway, surely, was the name. By this time in human history, we should all be very wary of any attraction involving the words winter, wonderland and grotto. Especially in November Especially in November

ON the very day that the Government announced plans to upgrade Britain's broadband, a neighbour came around in despair, his phone once again on the blink. While the latest all-singing, all-dancing hyper-fast fibre broadband would be truly wonderful, some of us our nere on and urban fringe would be pathetically grateful for anything that works in the rain



ED Balls took lot of stick on Strictly Come Dancing before being voted off at the week-end. But of all the contest-ants, he was closest to the original idea of

the show which was to take people from different walks of life, teach them to dance and see how good they could become. In-stead, genuine clod-hoppers like Balls find themselves pitched against established showbiz stars who are used to performing song and dance routines, not to mensing and carde foldines, not to their tion Olympic gymnast Claudia Fragapane who enlivens her dances with effortless one-handed cartwheels, for goodness' sake. By voting for Balls to stay for ten weeks, viewers defied the experts, refused to toe the line and made a sloping playing field just a bit more level.

MYSTERIES of our time. A full refurbish ment of Buckingham Palace will cost £370 million. A full refurbishment of the Palace of Westminster will cost more than 10 times as much, at £4,000m. Now, it may be that the Westminster job really is 10 times bigger than the one at Buck House. Or could it be that politicians spend public money like water while Her Majesty is known to watch every penny?

**Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Mon**day to Friday in your Express & Star

# Nuisance fires are being investigated Bill of over

NUISANCE rubbish fires at a Dud-ley trading estate near an existing 3,000-ton waste mountain are being investigated by environment watch-

dogs.
People living near Shaw Road say there are regular fires at a site on Dudley Central Trading Estate and 'hot ash and cinders' fall from the

sky most evenings as a result. Residents are already having to

put up with a huge mountain of rubbish on the opposite side of the road at Rowan Oak Waste Ltd. The Environment Agency and Dudley Council have said they are investigating the

Residents and businesses on Dudley Central Trading Estate say in a letter that there were 'unauthorised fires every weekday night'. The letter to The Chronicle's sister

newspaer, the Express & Star, continues: "No-one is interested enough to do anything about the activities – eventually there will be a major fire on the estate as a result of this continual burning, with hot ash and cinders falling from the sky most eve-

They add that the fires usually take place at around 5pm each week-day night.

A spokesman for the Environment Agency said: "We've had reports of waste being burned in the evenings at the Dudley Central Trading Es-tate site. We're working with Dudley

tate site. We're working with Dudley Council to investigate and will take appropriate action where necessary." Dudley Council confirmed that it has also been informed of the unau-thorised burning of waste on Shaw

# Reduction in council tax relief set to hit poorest

By Richard Guttridge

## THE poorest families in Dudley borough are facing a rise in their council tax.

Dudley Council is set to make changes to its reduction scheme, which aims to support low-income families by giving them council tax relief.

Currently, those elligible for the reduction pay 20 per cent of the council tax bill. The amount they will have to pay is now set to rise by two per cent, despite two-thirds of records whether the transfer that the council tax bills. of people who took part in the con-sultation stating they were against the move. The change could save the

council more than £150,000.

Currently those eligible in an average Band D property pay £267.56 annually towards the full charge of £1,337.8. Next year's council tax has yet to be set but, if it remains the same, the amount to pay will rise to £294 32

A decision is set to be made at a full council meeting on Monday but a report states the two per cent increase as the favoured option. Other options include keeping the scheme as it is, or even a five per cent rise.

## **Finance**

The council's finance boss Councillor David Sparks said chiefs had done 'all we could' to protect low-income households but the authority needed to cut costs as a result of Government funding cuts.

The council currently grants around £19 million in council tax reduction, while still collecting around £120m from the rest of the borough.

A consultation on the proposals found that the majority of people preferred to keep the scheme as it is. A total of 113 of 280 people said they 'strongly disagreed' with the proposals and 68 'disagreed' with the proposals and 68 'disagreed'. Only 38 'strongly agreed', while 60

fagreed'.

Conservative councillor Steve Clark, shadow member for finance, said: "It is going to affect the most vulnerable people in Dudley."

# Crooks steal from hospice shop



Goods donated to the Mary Stevens Hospice charity shop in Wordsley were stolen from an adjacent garage

RAIDERS made off with Christmas stock after a breakin at a charity shop in Wordsley.

Thieves targeted a garage at the back of The Mary Stevens Hospice Shop, on Lawnswood Road, which was used to store donated goods. The heartless crooks stole up to 60 bags of donations.

Staff were left devastated when they turned up on Tuesday last week to find everything had been stolen.

Area manager Gail Phillips said the garage had been half-full, but would not be used for storing donations again. She said: "We are all really upset about it. These were items generously donated."

The staff believe the theft must have taken place after they locked up on Monday (November 21). Among items

stolen were goods being gathered to create the Christmas hamper sold to raise money for the hospice.

The raid comes after the Stourbridge hospice launched its biggest fundraising drive, to raise £3 million for a revamp of the hospice on Hagley Road. The Wordsley shop is open again and determined to continue raising money.

Keeley Mason called on fellow supporters to help replace the store's stock by donating more goods in the run-up to Christmas. She said: "This charity is very close to my heart as they took care of my nan. The majority who work for the charity are volunteers and the charity runs by our support and donations."

Donations can be made directly to the shop. Meanwhile, police are investigating the break-in.

# £402m to deal with youngsters

MORE than £402 million has been

MORE than £402 million has been spent over the last year across the West Midlands on problem youngsters, which might have been prevented, according to new figures. The Early Intervention Foundation, a charity that helps identify potential problems and helps families tackle them before they develop, has estimated the high cost of failing to intervene in time.

Early intervention involves identifying children and families that may

intervene in time.
Early intervention involves identifying children and families that may be at risk of running into problems in areas of health, education and crime. It aims to prevent youngsters from dropping out of school, getting involved in crime or developing serious mental health problems.

Health visitors and youth offending teams are among those whose services may be called upon. If these problems are not spotted early enough, the cost of dealing with them later soars.

The charity said that in Wolverhampton £105 million was spent which equates to around £413 per person. In Dudley £107m was spent, working out to £337 per person, and in Birmingham £397 million was spent, equating to £357 per taxpayer.

Late intervention, such as hospitalisation and incarceration, tends to be more expensive.

more expensive.

A spokesman for the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children said: "Prevention is always better than cure, saves children from personal pain and suffering, also has the potential to alleviate the pressure

# **Praise for cyclists** who raised £1k

CYCLISTS from across the Black Country raised £1,000 for Wolver-hampton's Compton Hospice in Hale-sowen Athletic and Cycling Club's biggest ever annual sportive.

The Halesowen One Hundred Spor-The Halesowen One Hundred Sportive attracted more than 200 participants, who followed either a 100km or a 50km route from the club's Manor Abbey Stadium into the Worcestershire countryside.

It was backed by Black Country cy-cling legend Hugh Porter, a patron of both the club and Compton Hospice, who said he was delighted to see the event grow.

"We had an excellent turnout of cy-clists and the numbers are increasing year on year," said the four-time for-mer world champion.

# Troll along to mall for Danish beads

DANISH brand Trollbeads has opened a new shop at Merry Hill shopping centre.

The 10 sqm unit is on the Lower Mall and includes a play table, where customers can get creative and hands on with the jewellery.

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# **NEWS** IN BRIEF 5

# **Shocking** figures for serious crime by children

arrested for numerous serious offenc-es - including rape - in the West Midlands last year

Two children were arrested on sus two children were arrested on sus-picion of raping a girl under 13 while three were arrested for the rape of a boy under 13 in 2015. Eleven 10 to 11-year-olds were ar-

rested on suspicion of assaulting a person and causing them actual bodily harm, with a further five arrested for

harm, with a further five arrested for assault by beating.
One other was arrested for common assault and five more on suspicion of robbery.
The figures, released by West Mid-lands Police, showed in total 80 chil-dren aged 10 and 11 were arrested in 2015.

An NSPCC spokesman said the charity was concerned about the num-ber of recorded alleged sex offences. He said: "We know many sex of-

fences against children are commit-ted by their peers and it's crucial that work continues to understand why this behaviour is adopted.

"Ensuring these young people re-ceive treatment and boosting the ceive treatment and boosting the availability of support for their victims is key. Sexual offences, whether committed by another child or an adult, can have lifelong consequences."

Another child, aged 10 or 11, was arrested on suspicion of being involved with the production of cannabis, a class B drug.

Two children were arrested for attempting to wound a person with intent.

# **Speed camera call** over road safety

A POLICE chief is calling for the return of speed cameras in a bid to reduce deaths on the roads – after Dudley Council revealed plans for new cameras on Birmingham New Road.

West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner David Jamieson has highlighted speeding as the issue that keeps coming up in investigations into fatal collisions.

It follows the decision in 2013 to

switch off speed cameras in the Black Country because they were deemed too costly to run.

Mr Jamieson said he was asking

ouncils to look again at this policy.

He said: "I am pressing them to take action where appropriate. Speeding over and over again comes back"."

# **Black Country's** novel romance

DUDLEY author Nancy Carsen's lat-est romantic novel was released in pa-

perback this week.

Her ninth novel, Poppy's Dilemma, is about a railway worker's daughter in the Black Country in the 1850s.

# Former walk-in clinic is up for rent A FORMER health walk-in centre in Dudley, which

caused an outcry among residents when it closed, caused an outcry among residents when it closed, has gone on the market.

A senior Labour politician was among the supporters of a campaign to keep the Holly Hall clinic which served 50,000 patients a year – open. But despite protests it was closed last year, replaced by an urgent care centre at Russells Hall.

Now the NHS is looking to rent out the centre, which could be used as a day centre, nursery or even a school.

It is on the market with a guide rent price of

£1,667 per month.

Councillor Elaine Taylor, whose Netherton,
Woodside & St Andrew's ward includes the former

being left empty. But she maintains it should be

brought back to its original use as a walk-in centre. She said: "I do welcome any new investment because empty buildings do not do anybody any favours. I still feel this has to come back to the orig-

favours. I still feel this has to come back to the original use of the building.

"I was against the closure of Holly Hall in the beginning and I still think the new centre is not serving the people it needs to because of its location.
"Having said that, buildings that are left empty just turn into a state of disrepair."

Labour MP Andy Burnham, on a visit to Dudley when he was Shadow Secretary for Health, warned that closing the walk-in centre could be a 'major

mistake', saying: "It's obvious how valued this centre is because it's seeing 30,000 people a year."

The clinic used to see people without an appointment between 8am and 8pm in the week and up to 10pm at weekends. The new centre at Russells Hall Hospital is open 24 hours a day.

Hospital is open 24 hours a day.

A description of the property on Rightmove suggests that it could become a clinic, day centre, crèche nursery or school.

New images of the centre, also on the property website, show the interior has not changed much

from when the building was open.

The property comprises a reception, waiting room, eight consulting rooms, office space, several toilets, basement and a barrier controlled car park.

# **Every donation helps** o make a difference

# "EVERY donation matters" - that's the message from staff and volunteers busily working behind the scenes at

the Black Country Food Bank. The charity's warehouse in Brierley Hill is where every item donated is logged and stored before it is delivered to its 19 distribution centres. People can visit these centres to exchange vouchers for three days of emergency food supplies.

Around 40 volunteers work sorting donations Around 40 volunteers work sorting tonations and ensuring they are delivered to the different centres depending on demand. Every item is checked and the best before date written on it to ensure supplies are used in the right order.

The biggest crime we commit is to waste food so it's important that we know when it has to be used said volunteer Kelvin Bates.

oy, said volunteer Reivin Bates.

Any donation which must be used urgently is passed on to The Good Shepherd Ministry in Wolverhampton which serves hot meals to those in need.
Within the warehouse, items are stored by food

type to make it easier for supplies to be gathered and for monitoring of stock.

"It's not as much as it looks. The cereals might

just be enough for a few weeks and the whole lot would run out within a few months without further donations, said Mr Bates who has been volunteer-

donations, said Mr bates who has been volunteer-ing for the charity for 11 years. "We are grateful for everything we receive, every donation matters and makes a difference,"

# Crisis

Last year, the warehouse distributed 36,000kg of food across the Black Country which had been donated from the community including 70 churches and 50 schools

It's not just food. The charity also hands out toi-letries and cleaning supplies.

The charity provides crisis provision to an aver-

The charty provides crisis provision to an average of 1,400 people per month. Of those around 40 per cent are children

The main issue people face is benefits being delayed or stopped, which leaves them turning to the food bank for help. It partners with around 250 local agencies in an effort to ensure that food goes those in genuine need.

Mr Bates, aged 68, from Brierley Hill, said the

Mr Bates, aged oo, from brieriey rim, sau die charity was well-supported in the community.

"This job restores your faith in humanity. It's wonderful to see what people have given to help people they have never met and are never likely to.

"We often hear about the bad things that are



The volunteer team: Jen Williams, Mike Crook, Niall Jackson and Kelvin Bates at Black Country Food Bank

happening in the community – we don't tend hear about all of the good things. This is the good that is happening every day," he added.

Jen Williams, aged 67, from Kingswinford, has been volunteering for 12 months, having previously revoked at Debut and as a heighterest.

worked at Debenhams and as a hairdresser. She said: "I was amazed at how much this food was needed. I had no idea how hard some people were finding it just to get enough to eat.
"I love volunteering here because I know I'm

doing my bit to help those less fortunate."

The Black Country Food Bank is one of the good causes which will benefit from the Express & Star's Feed A Family This Christmas appeal.

With the help of readers The Chronicle's sister

newspaper wants to provide families with Christmas treats they would otherwise not be able to afford as well, as supplying them with store-cupboard essentials to keep them going through the festive

season.

As part of the Feed A Family campaign, the Express & Star will also be supporting The Well (Home of the Wolverhampton Food Bank), the Good Shepherd Ministry in Wolverhampton, Smethwick Food Bank, Walsall North Food Bank and Cannock and District Food Bank.

Also receiving support will be The Haven which provides both practical and emotional support services to women and children who are affected by domestic violence and homelessness

# **3D print sweets at Merry Hill centre**

THE world's first 3D printer to create sweets has been launched in the UK-including at Katjes Magic Candy Fac-tory at Merry Hill shopping centre.

The printer may sound like some-thing out of a Willy Wonka story but tiling out of a winy wonka story out it actually allows people to print, in eight flavours, an edible shape includ-ing a message, hand drawn design or even a selfie – and it can be done in five minutes.

It is the the first ever food certified 3D printer for gelatine free sweets, available online and in major shopping centres.

# **Pupils learn at** canal heritage site

PUPILS from Wren's Nest Primary School had a chance to take over ex-hibition space for National Takeover Day 2016.

Dudley Canal Tunnel and Lime-stone Mines welcomed the Year 5 students to learn about the roles of curator and exhibition designer at the heritage site. Then they created ar exhibition of their own design on the theme of Victorian life.

Takeover Day 2016 is the latest initiative by Dudley Canal and Tunnel Trust working with youngsters since opening their new Portal building.

# **Builders stump** up for cricketers

DAVID Wilson Homes Mercia has do DAVID WISSON HOMES METCH has do-nated £200 to a tournament at Him-ley Cricket Club.

Now in its seventh year, the Black

Country Floodlit T20 competition was held over six days and includes six local teams – Himley, Stourbridge, Wolverhampton, Halesowen, Brewood and Staffordshire.

To add to the festivities, some of the period local between tween an hand

regions local breweries were on hand to offer their finest hand pulled cask

# Pub grotto to cheer up children in hospital

STAFF stood in for elves when they made Santa's grotto at a Stourbridge

Staff from the Britannia Inn at Wol-laston have also filled the pub with fes-

Entrance to the High Street pub's grotto is £5 and runs until Christmas, allowing youngsters to meet Santa

and receive a gift.

Money raised will go towards buying
Christmas presents for patients at Bir
mingham Children's Hospital.

# **Christmas concert**

A CHRISTMAS concert is being held A CHRIST WAS concert is being field at the Methodist Church on Stream Road, Kingswinford, next Saturday (December 10). The BJ Concert Band perform at 7pm and musical director Steve Tromans invites the audience to join the singing. For free tickets call Mervyn Jackson on 07949 719757.

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# IN MY VIEW

# Stella's not on the ball with latest assertions

I'VE always had a lot of time for Stella Creasy, the West-Midland born MP for Walthamstow once seen as a rising star of the Labour Party.

This is partly because I remember her

as a young parliamentary assistant to then Dudley North MP Ross Cranston afther finishing university in the 1990s. But more to the point, unlike some of her per-petually disgruntled colleagues, she has come up with some original ideas and thought-provoking campaigns. Her work exposing the extortionate interest rates of payday lenders is a case in point. But her latest assertion, that the consistent underperformance of the England control the control to the control t

football team is down to the fact that not

rootball team is down to the fact that not enough players went to comprehensive schools, is way off beam.

Miss Creasy says 13 per cent of players picked for England are privately educated twice the national average – meaning that the the trace of the agents.

- twice the national average – meaning that the talent pool is too narrow. But, 13 per cent actually amounts to two players, Theo Walcott and Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain. But if Stella did a bit of digging, she would find that over the years a disproportionate number of England footballers actually went to a single comprehensive school – Idsall School in Shifnal, which is close to where the FA academy at Lilleshall is based. leshall is based.

leshall is based.

I know everyone loves a bit of diversity these days but I don't think the failure of the England team is down to Wayne Rooney and Raheem Stirling being too posh. You could blame the money-obsessed Premier League and its demands the instant suggest and the suggest of the standard s sessed Premire League and its deminations for instant success, meaning clubs would rather buy ready-made overseas players than nurture their own talent. Or you could blame successive governments, including those of Miss Creasy's party, for selling off school playing fields. But really, I think it's down to the fact that our footballers are not your good. ballers are not very good.

NOW I doubt if there has ever been much honour among thieves. People who say such things tend to be the sort of dewn eyed, rose-tinted sentimentalists who recall how the Krays had nice table

But there are some crimes taking place today which truly defy belief, that one could not possibly imagine even a couple

Take last week's break-in at the Mary Stevens Hospice shop in Wordsley. Thieves stole 50 bags of items donated to make hampers which would raise money for those with incurable illnesses. What sort of person steals from the ter-

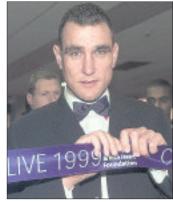
What sort of person steals from the terminally ill? While we don't know the mo-tives in this case, all too often it turns out that drugs are involved somewhere. What I do know is that the maximum

sentence for a non-dwelling burglary is 10 years. Maybe it should be used more often.





Charlotte Church, seen performing in 2005





# Brum is wear it's at as Clothes Show bows out



FROM football hardman Vinny Jones to Welsh singer Charlotte Church and soap star Patsy Kensit, the Clothes Show doors have opened to a cornucopia of stars in

Brum over the years.
Other notables include Dawn French, socialite Tara Palmer-Tomkinson and singer Alexandra Burke who have all

graced the event since it debuted in 1989.
This year the show stages its last event since moving to the city in 1990, before relocating to Liverpool next year. It takes place from to-morrow, Friday to Tuesday. Caryn Franklin MBE ran The Clothes Show for 12 years from 1986 to 1998.



All rise - boyband Blue during their appearance, from left, Duncan, Anthony, Simon and Lee

As final preparations are made for the NEC's last Clothes Show Live, ALEX ROSS looks back at its colourful history

She said: "When I began presenting the BBC's Clothes Show as Fashion Editor of i-D Magazine back in 1986, I had no idea it would have such a far reaching effect and long-term impact on public perception of the fashion in-

"Our approach to showcasing high-end designer fashion alongside artisan and high street product together with personal and homemade creativity to celebrate all body

types, ages and tastes caught the imagination of the nation and beyond." Among the now-famous models who were first found at the show were Brownhills-based model Erin O'Connor, Oliver Cheshire, Sami Rollinson and Rosie

Oliver Cheshire, Sami Rollinson and Rosie Tapner.

TV personalities were also unearthed – from Cat Deeley to Holly Willoughby and Vernon Kay. Presenters have also included Dermot O'Leary, Louise Redknapp, Gok Wan and Fearne Cotton. Music acts, dancers and models have also taken to the stage to entertain the crowds. They include Boyzone, JUS, Charlotte Church and Alexandra Burke. lotte Church and Alexandra Burke.

This year the event is recognising and celebrating the talent of young people within the music industry.

It is carrying out a search to find a male and



Katie Price at the 'designer beach' in 2009

female artiste who will become the headline acts in the iconic Alcatel Fashion Theatre, in association with Capital FM.

At its launch in October, 1986 on the BBC,

At its lattice in October, 1986 on the BBC, The Clothes Show was designed to bring high fashion to the general public, tackling issues such as sweatshops and eating disorders. Viewing figures rose throughout the 1980s and 1990s, peaking to nine million on the Sun-

day night.

The live show has seen more than 100,000 visitors every December.

It has become an important day in the calendar to mark fashion history and heritage.

But it has not been without its problems over the years. In 1991 many people were ac-tually snowed in because of the bad weather and had to stay at the NEC overnight.

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# Roseville calling... remember us? The King is a

lage of Roseville, Coseley. That is of course bid you ever park on the library and are left anyone except the railway users at Coseley with a note reading: 'if you're not using the station, for two years now I along with oth-library don't use the car park'. badgering Dudley Council regarding the parking issue, now I'm wondering if they realise we even exist!

Our car parks are blocked from 7am until
7pm. Every time you ring you're told, yes
we're aware of the problem and it's being
monitored.

Come on Dudley MBC why not try and
make our wish come true...all we want for
MR D BUNCE monitored.

We now have to park outside the village

I'M not sure if anyone knows the little vil- and walk in, as do our customers. God for-

Now it's beginning to affect our trade as people will just drive off. I telephoned one councillor only to be told there is no problem in Coselev

Equal Partners Hair Studio, Coseley

# dementia homecare

IT was shocking and shaming to hear the news last week that so many people with dementia are not being treated with the dignity and respect they deserve when being cared for at home. It beggars belief that homecare for dementia is

not being taken seriously, with one in three homecare workers receiving no de-mentia training at all. This

menta training at all. This
must change.

It is the difference between seeing a well-trained
homecare worker making a
confused person relaxed and happy, and someone with-out that competence making life intolerable for everyone involved.

As an Alzheimer's Society supporter and the former Dignity Ambassador for the Government, I urge your readers to sign the Alzheim-er's Society petition and call on the Government to fix a broken homecare system: www.alzheimers.org.uk/fix

# PARKINSON

c/o Alzheimer's Society

# Failings on **LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

# **POST**

Chronicle Editorial, 51-53 Queen Street Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

# EMAIL

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

# Ditch the tired old rhetoric councillor

COUNCILLOR Khurshid stayed open and they shut Ahmed states that Dudley Council have come up with exciting proposals'. The proposals are simply to close three good leisure centres and build two. Now what would be even

more exciting and thrilling would be if the three were invested in properly and two new leisure centres were built to replace the ones already shut down in Brierley

Hill and Coseley.
Instead we hear the same old tired rhetoric. They always tell us that the buildways tell us that the build-ings are falling to bits. Here in Halesowen we are used to all that, because it was all said before. There was a change in political power and – Hey Presto! Halesowen Leisure Centre

cutting and cutting services. They circle like vultures and can't wait to privatise the NHS

In this area their cuts have closed the fire station, the ambulance station, the law courts and the social services office.

It is time that the La-bour Council said enough is enough, but instead they make foolish statements about 'exciting proposals' as though we might actually

believe such nonsense! Keep all leisure centres open by investing in them. C STOLL

# true megastar

REGARDING the King, Elvis Presley. I think it's so brilliant to see the two albums of the King with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra (If I Can Dream, The Wonder Of You) go to number one in the album charts – almost 40 years after his nassing ter his passing. That makes it a record 13

number one albums, which sits proudly alongside his 21 number one singles, also a

A true megastar – a word loosely used for a lot of stars today

Elvis Presley always wanted to sing with an or-chestra, I hope we get more of these recordings.

He also sold more re-cords than any other artist and spent more time in the charts than any other artist. His music will never fade, a true great artist, no one else comes near

else comes near.

MEL HARPER

# Hippodrome is an 'eyesore'

HAVING read the article in Dudley Chronicle regarding the Hippodrome, I have a couple of questions to ask. Who is going to fund this crazy scheme? Five million

pounds is not easily raised. I only hope the tax payers are not funding it!

If these people are given the keys for five years that means the eyesore remains for six years at least.

I really cannot imagine

that these people will be able to get the venue up and running but they should consider tidying up the frontage first.

J ABBISS



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# **Eager recruits for army** style discipline at college

Black Country have been attending a unique college for those with hopes of a career

in uniform.

The Military Preparation College, which opened this summer in Dudley, is run by ex-military veterans and aims to help people aged 16 to 19 prepare for future employment or further education, as well as moving into careers in the Armed Forces.

The college, which opened in July.

reers in the Armed Forces.

The college, which opened in July, receives Government funding to operate and students spend half of every day outdoors by taking part in a range of physical training exercises. There are a more than 20 military preparations of the property o ration colleges across England and

Wales.

Instructors work with each young person to help them achieve their best and help them get their foot through the door and into their aspiring career in the armed forces.

# Struggled

Some of the pupils struggled with typical school education and have left or been expelled and have now been enrolled onto the army style course. If the students would rather have

a career in another sector, help and skills are provided, along with GCSE qualifications.

There are also military preparation colleges in Wolverhampton at Frank-

ley for Birmingham.
Paul Evans, regional manager for the military college in Birmingham, Wolverhampton and Dudley, said: "For some of the students here school has been tough or they haven't enjoyed it so they have therefore suffered

"We offer an alternative curriculum which students will enjoy more."
Paul added: "It takes an average

of six months before the students are



Students are put through their paces



Ben Kirkham and Tiff Slade run

ready to go on into the army. They can start any week and leave any week they like."

Two ex-military staff are instructors at the college and assist the youngsters with their physical training schedule.

Former Royal Fusilier Daniel



Manager and former soldier Paul Evans



Team building in Buffery Park

tured through progression to become

The colleges have 86 per cent progression into further education, training or employment, and have been rated outstanding by Ofsted.

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# Thousands of fans join in tribute to brave Lydia

fans paid a moving tribute to young Lydia Pearce Ameson, the Dudley girl who died from

a rare illness last week.

A packed Molineux – some 28,000 supporters – marked the passing of the 15-year-old Wolves fan on the 15th minute during the

fan on the 15th minute during the match on Saturday by providing a minute of applause in her honour. Lydia's family and friends were welcomed by Wolves in an executive box as the club hosted Sheffield Wednesday in a Championship match.

Fans of both teams paid their respects to Lydia who was diamond.

spects to Lydia, who was diagnosed with Neurofibromatosis Type 1 when she was just 18 months old.

The illness is a rare genetic condition which causes tumours to grow

along nerve

# Crowd

Wolves were losing after conceding from the penalty spot but that made no difference to the outpouring of emotion, with the club's biggest home crowd in 18 months applauding the

crowd in 18 months applauding the youngster.

All around Molineux tens of thousands of people stood up to applaud, including almost three thousand of the fans from Yorkshire.

The Express & Star's Wolves reporter Tim Spiers said: "It was a thunderous ovation, despite the fact the team had just gone behind. It was a really emotional moment" a really emotional moment.'

Sarah Ameson, her mother, said: "It was fantastic and there was a lit-tle star above us and we said that was

"Everyone at the Wolves looked after us so well and we would like to offer a huge thank you for all their

support.
"There were nine of us all together





Wolves' Danny Batth visited Lydia



Fans pay tribute to Dudley Wolves fan Lydia Ameson during the 15th minute

including Lydia's uncles, godfather tiful and confident girl who loved her

including Lydia's uncles, godtather and three of her friends.

"The atmosphere was amazing. Her name even shot up on the big screen in the Molineux. It was just perfect."

Captain Danny Batth visited Lydia's home in Dudley last month to hand over a signed shirt to the Bishop Milner Catholic College nuril

Milner Catholic College pupil.

Her mother said: "She was a beau-

family and friends very much. She loved music, dancing and theatre. She had also done a Bake-Off style charity fundraiser in aid of Neurofibromato-

A JustGiving page which was set up for Lydia has raised nearly £10,000 To donate visit www.justgiving.com/ crowdfunding/lydiapearceameson

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On the 29th January 2016, Jesus Christ appeared to a 69-year-old man in Walsall- his life has been totally changed. Planet Ministries invites you to hear their story. This will open the door for you to the biggest experience of your life.

You may ask why? Almighty God of Jesus Christ is not a respecter of persons, the experience He gave to them, He wants to give that experience to you too

His word says: Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever. (Hebrews 13:8)

## Dr Max Matonhodzean apostle (special messenger) of Jesus Christ

Born in Zimbabwe, came to know Jesus Christ as an undergraduate in August 1980. On the 30th

Planet Ministries

November 1987, he entered his bedroom just after midnight and what he saw was a large ball of bright, incandescent, dazzling light. As the light deemed, Jesus Christ stood at the centre of the light and gave him a special message for every person including you.

Dr Max came to the United Kingdom on divine instruction in December 1993 and trained to be a Respiratory Medicine Specialist and has held a post as a Consultant Physician for the past 14 years. He has a message for you from God "Almighty God is inviting you to live in His presence." This message will change your life. Jesus Christ wants to touch your spirit, soul and your body. Dr Max and his wife Joyce invite you

## John Tidesley (Not real name as we need to protect his identity)

69 years from Walsall. West Midlands. Troubled with leg weakness due to Multiple Sclerosis, epilepsy, COPD. Under various medical specialists his condition deteriorated and needed to use a wheelchair and oxygen from a cylinder to help him breathe.

On the 29th January 2016, following an epileptic seizure at about 2 am, at the end of his tether and on the verge of taking his own life, he reached out to his phone, to send a farewell message to his wife. At that moment a text message sent from Planet Ministries flushed on

"Jesus Christ is the light of the world, he who walks with him will never walk in darkness."

As he read that message, his whole room lit up with a bright light at the centre of which was the figure of a man. He was shown the heavenly city and then a full video of the crucifixion of Jesus Christ

Following this encounter, John lives without a wheelchair or oxygen. Totally transformed. He is now going up and down the country teaching people to believe in God. He wants you to hear from him. It will change your life.

# **Christmas Convention** 16<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> December 2016

nistries.org.uk/events Life changing event

# Museum's bid to raise £10,000 in just 72 hours

Museum is launching a bid to raise £10,000 in 72 hours to bring its colliery back to life.

The popular open air museum is calling on the public to help reach the total.

calling on the public to help reach the total.

Bosses have also teamed up with TheBigGive.org.uk which will match every donation pound for pound.

Revealing their plans a spokesman for the museum on Tipton Road said: "Coal mines and collieries were the heart and soul of the region. They fuelled the industrial development of the Black Country and helping to create the world we live in today.

"We want our visitors to be able to experience this story for themselves and to do this we're going to revitalise our Racecourse Colliery."

In order to complete the work the museum staff need to raise £205,000.

So far £80,000 has been collected with donations from sources such as Arts Council England and the Owen Family Trust.

Family Trust

## Challenge

The museum has already raised £80,000 from sources, including Arts Council England and the Owen Family Trust, but in order to complete the work are looking to raise £205,000 in total.

Between Trust and the Council England

total.

Between Tuesday this week and tomorrow (Friday) the museum is taking part in The Big Give's #ChristmasChallenge with the aim of raising £10,000 in 72 hours.

Once all the money is secured and the project is faithed residence will be

the project is finished visitors will be able to see Charlie, the museum's pit pony, pull a tub along the restored tramway. Museum chiefs fear the tub tramway could be lost forever unless investment is made.

The museum also plans to install a



Black Country Living Museum unveils £205,000 plans for the coal mine area

pit cage to show how miners were low- acters to talk about the region's hisered into the shaft, with demonstrations at a new blacksmith's forge.

Museum bosses want to enhance visitors' knowledge, enjoyment and understanding of the area's rich industrial past.

They aim to add a host of new char-

tory and provide stories of real people who once worked at the colliery.

A video about the project is available to view on The Big Give website.

People can make donations from

noon on November 29 to the appeal. Visit www belm co uk for details

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# Cab spies on phone motorists

MORE than 230 motorists have been caught by motorway police putting lives at risk by using a mobile phone at the wheel. Officers from the Central Motorway Police Group (CMPG) have been using an unmarked lorry cab to catch distracted drivers breaking the law on the region's motorway network, including the M54, M5, M6 and M42.

M42.
The three-week operation coincided with a national mobile phone enforcement initiative.

ative.

Between November 7 and 14 a total of 233 drivers were fined for using a mobile phone at the wheel and 21 others were reported for not paying attention to the road, including someone watching YouTube.

The CMPG - a partnership between West Mercia, Staffordshire and West Midlands police forces - is leading the crackdown

police forces – is leading the crackdown with Highways England to increase road

safety.

The elevated, plain white cab allows of ficers to observe unsuspecting lorry drivers and look down on motorists in cars or other light vehicles to see if they are committing

an offence.

An officer alongside the driver is able to video for evidence.

Of the cheen driver reaction times when

Studies show driver reaction times when using a mobile are 30 per cent slower than someone who is just above the drink drive limit. Research has also indicated that drivers using mobile phones are four times more likely to be involved in a crash involving depress to proportion control in the same to proportion the same to be a same to proportion the same to proportion the same to proportion the same to be a same to proportion the same to be a same to ing damage to property or serious injury.

# Angry father commits the first Don't be bitten 11 crime on island in living memory

A FATHER from Dudley has become the first person ever to commit a crime on a tiny holy island off the Welsh coast.

The 45-year-old holidaymaker was seen disciplining his 'misbehaving' seven-yearold son at a chocolate factory on Caldev

old son at a chocolate factory on Caldey Island, near the popular holiday resort of Tenby, a court in Haverfordwest was told. The father was seen shouting at the boy before lifting him up by the throat and slapping him on the head, magistrates heard.

The father, who cannot be named for legal reasons, admitted assaulting his son after witnesses called the police.

Just 40 monks live on the mile-and-a half-long island, which is off the Pembrokeshire coast. It is so remote that police had to be carried by lifeboat the wo miles to the island to make the arrest.

arrest.

The incident was revealed when the arrested holidaymaker appeared in court on the main-

The holy island has a monastery for 18 Cisteran monks and a handful of farmers - but with no criminal activity in living memory. But for the first time in September it recorded a single crime of violence, which led to the Black

**By David Banner** 

Country father appearing before Haverfordwest Magistrates Court, where he admitted assault. Mr Dennis Davies, prosecuting, said other shocked visitors told police how the incident took place as they stood outside the chocolate factory on the island, which attracts boat loads

factory on the island, which attracts boat loads of tourists.

He said: "The man was said to be shouting at the boy before lifting him up with an outstretched arm by the throat, before putting him down, slapping him on the back of the head and frog marching him away."

The court heard a visitor shouted 'that's child abuse,' at the father. Police were called to the island to arrest the 45-year-old.

He told police his son was 'being naughty and wouldn't listen' – and almost fell down some steps.

Mr Davies said: "He told police that in no way did he intend to hurt him but accepted that he had been unreasonable. He explained that his son had ADHD and was on the autistic spectrum."

trum."
Mr Mike Kelleher, defending, said: "The boy doesn't like crowds and queuing, and doesn't see

danger as others do.
"The father said his son was misbehaving

and running up and down the steps, and he was concerned he would hurt himself or others. The father is deeply upset and didn't want to hurt his son"

his son."

The man was released on bail while reports are prepared. Before the assault, official crime statistics

have recorded a zero for Caldey Island for anti-social behaviour, theft, burglary, arson, drugs, public order, vehicle crime, robbery and possession of offensive weapons.

### Modern

The island, which has a population of 40, has had a monastery for more than 1,500 years. The monks observe a vow of silence between 7pm and 7am, outside usual hours tourists can reach the island. The monks were described as being

the island. The monks were described as being concerned by the assault.

Island manager John Cattini, 65, said: "This is the first crime I can recall and I've been here more than 40 years. I'm glad to say I didn't witness it but I'm sorry to say I was told about it. It is very sad. We are happy to say we live here very peacefully. This person was a visitor and is a sign of the modern world, I expect."

Every year, more than 3,000 visitors travel to Caldey Island between April and October to sample products made by the monks, including perfume, shortbread and chocolate.

PEOPLE are being warned to avoid being bitten by loan sharks this Christmas. At this time of year people are often tempted by loan sharks as they struggle for cash to cover the expense of the season. Loan sharks will often act like friends and make the offer seem hard to resist, but

and make the oner seem nara to resist, but very quickly the situation can spiral out of control and borrowers subjected to threats, intimidation and violence. Councillor Gaye Partridge, cabinet mem-ber for community safety in Dudley, said: "Loan sharks aren't licensed to lend money

ber for community safety in Dudley, said:

"Loan sharks aren't licensed to lend money legally and they will often resort to the most extreme methods to enforce repayment.

"Our advice is that you should never go to a loan shark. They do not provide a community service, they are simply out to make money. If you suspect there is one operating in your area please report it."

The local authority is recommending credit unions as a safe alternative for lending and savin, including Castle & Crystal Credit Union in Dudley.

Established in September 1993, Castle & Crystal Credit Union is a not-for-profit financial co-operative. It was originally an employee based credit union, operating for Dudley Council staff. For details, call 01384 815771 or visit www.castleandcrystal.co.uk website. Loan sharks can be reported confidentially by calling Illegal Money Lending England on 0300 555 2222 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.



# Take up teaching for more of those 'goosebumps' moments

## **Commercial feature**

## When was the last time that you experienced a magical moment that gave you goosebumps at work?

If you're struggling to remember a positive sensation like this you aren't alone; one quarter (25%) of the public say they've never had such a rewarding feeling in their working lives, according to research from the national Get Into Teaching campaign. Yet, in comparison, over three-quarters of teachers (77%) have enjoyed one of those special moments within the last

The survey found that it is experiences like this that help teachers feel proud of the job they do at least once a week. It is also these transformational moments that teachers get to be part of - when something clicks for a pupil – that contributes to making teachers feel that their iob is worthwhile. You could get this feeling too, if you train to teach.

The time is right, as applications for teacher training are now open – and there is particular demand for teachers in maths, science and other key

The emotional rewards of teaching often come in the classroom but there are financial incentives too.

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Experts from the Get Into Teaching team are on hand, providing guidance to aspiring teachers all the way through the application process.

Whether you're a recent graduate or seeking a career change, visit education.gov.uk/teaching or call 0800 389 2500 to find out more







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# Council is offering condensation advice

DUDLEY Council is helping residents tackle condensation in their homes with a new advice leaflet and video on its website

Anyone experiencing such a problem can download an advice leaflet and view a video on the Dudley Council www.dudley.gov.uk website.

Condensation is caused when warm moist air comes

into contact with cold air or a cold surface, causing water

into contact with cold air or a cold surface, causing water droplets to form. This is particularly an issue during winter when homes are warmer than outside.

Housing boss Councillor Gaye Partridge said: "Condensation and mould can be a particular problem during the winter months so we produced a leaflet and an video which work hand in hand. These items have been produced primarily with council tenants in mind, but are relevant to anyone experiencing condensation in their

# **Former Conservative Club** going under the hammer

THE FORMER Stourbridge Conservative Club building, which is now a bar and nightclub, is being sold in a property auction next week.

The building in New Road, most recently known as Bar Eleven, has a guide price of £250,000 when it goes under the hammer. It is one of 109 lots in SDL Big-

wood's final auction in the Holte Suite at Villa Park on Thursday, De-cember 8, starting at 11am.

Bar Eleven is an independently run nightspot with three bars and a capacity of 300. It is open all week and hosts DJs and tribute bands on a large fully equipped stage

After closure of the Conservative Club in 2007, the building on the ring road became a target for van-dalism. But it was then brought back dalism. But it was then brought back into use as a live music venue and recording studio called Moochers Jailhouse, which opened in 2012. Two years ago Moochers was taken over by Bar Eleven.

On Rightmove the property is described as a spacious, traditional building. It is configured to provide har areas club room or music years.

bar areas, club room or music venue It states that the property is considered suitable for a variety of alternative uses or redevelopment, subject to planning permission.



The former Conservative Club in Stourbridge - most recently Bar Eleven - offered for £250,000



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# Teenage motorist used car as a weapon

ately crashed into a stationary car in Quinton, knocking over the motorist who had just got out.

The road rage incident came just five days after Shakeel Janjua, from Netherton, stole a car at gun-

Janjua has been locked up for five years, following his ap

Janjua has been locked up f pearance at Wolverhampton Crown Court. Janjua careered into the parked Vauxhall Insignia sending sales manager Ivan Trebinski, 61, flying. Mr Trebinski, 61, flying. Mr Trebinski had tailed the 19-year-old from Halesowen High Street to Clydesdale Road in Quinton, after he had been cut up by an Astra driven by Janjua on July 2 last year.

last year.

Mr Paul Spratt, prosecuting, told the court: "Mr
Trebinski was about to walk over to remonstrate over the

over to remonstrate over the driving of the other motorist after both cars stopped when the Astra suddenly sped away."

The victim told police: "It was driven directly at me, hitting the front of my vehicle." He was standing alongside the Insignia and was knocked down as a result of the collision.

# Injured

Janjua drove off leaving the dazed sales manager with an injured shoulder before causing £500 damage to a Renault Clio when he crashed into it at a nearby

crashed into it at a nearby traffic island.

The defendant had stolen a £1,500 Seat Leon on June 27, which was being sold by Faizal Mahmood at Bordesley Green. He had threatened Mr Mahmood with a gun, later accepted as an imitation firearm, telling him he would be shot if he tried to stop the vehicle being taken during a

By John Scott

dumped soon afterwards after an accident.
Janjua was arrested on July 3 and bailed pending further inquiries but on May 29 this year was seen speeding in a stolen Vauxhall Meriva on false plates after it was stolen in a car key burglary five days earlier.

lier.

The defendant twice smashed into a pursuing police car in a bid to escape after racing along the Hagley Road in Quinton at almost three times the 30mph limit shortly before 2am. He also went through red lights and drove the wrong way round a traffic island before the front tyre came off and, going at 30mph, he hurtled into a second police car that was blocking the road. Janjua ran off but was caught while attempting to direct the second policy at the second policy and the second policy at the second while attempting to climb a fence. He had two bags of cannabis and a knife on his

person.
Mr Gurdeep Garcha, de-fending, said: "He has fool-

ishly made some very grave mistakes."

Janjua from Knowle Hill Road, pleaded guilty to robbery, possession of an imitation firearm, assault, dangerous driving and pos-session of both cannabis and

A knife.

He was jailed by Judge
Nicholas Webb who told
him: "You used a vehicle as vehicle being taken during a viewing. The Seat Leon was a weapon but fortunately no serious injury was caused."

# **Hi-tech creativity** at new code club

TECH savvy youngsters are invited to join a coding club at Brierley Hill Library. The weekly code club runs every

Friday during term time from 4.30 to 5.30pm.

Youngsters can learn how to make games, animations and create websites from scratch. Coding is also now on the school curriculum

The club follows on from the huge success of a digital festival held at Halesowen Library, which was attended by more than 600. Visitors watched demonstrations of 3D printers and more. For information on code club visit www. codeclub.org.uk or call (01384) 812955

# Council take action in bid to improve eyesore shops

over eyesore properties on Long Lane.

A maintenance of land notice has

been issued to a group of shops in Shell Corner to clean windows, re-move waste and take down old.out-

move waste and take down out.out-of-date signs.

It comes after Councillor Stuart Henley, a representative of Hale-sowen North ward, complained that the area was blighted by dereliction,

litter and crime.

The notice, which has been attached to the front of the empty shops, states that the frontages of 303A and 304 Long Lane must have also reviewed the state of the state clean windows, frames and cladding along with taking 'all reasonable to clear and remove any waste

Specifics to 303A, which is the for-mer Tudor Law shop, state: 'Remove

DUDLEY Council is taking action all signage, clean the front door, over eyesore properties on Long doorstep, stall riser and the flashing

all signage, clean the front door, doorstep, stall riser and the flashing above the main shop front fascia.'
At 304, formerly Hedzup, broken glass will need to be reinstated, signage removed and the front of shop painted in a dark colour. Litter, waste, rubbish and weeds are also required to be dealt with.

Councillor Henley said: 'I have-mailed a couple of officers to find out when the work will be carried out. The good thing is they have been pushing the owners of the premises to get them sorted and put notices on. The flats above were sold recently and people are moving in, so we need them cleaned as soon as possible.

"They have been bringing the area down for a while now. We need the area tidied up and the shops are a key start."



The shops that Dudley Council have targeted for improvements on Long Lane at Shell Corner

# Health chiefs look at modern slavery

HEALTH chiefs have been discussing how to improve awareness of modern slavery among medical professionals across the West Midlands.

A senior official warned there was a lack of under-standing of the issue, particularly in the NHS, during a conference in Birmingham last week. Twelve suspected slaves were rescued by police in

Twelve suspected slaves were rescued by ponce in Sandwell last month.

Dr Stephen Munday is Chair of the Association of Directors of Public Health West Midlands, which represents Directors of Public Health from each council in the region. He said: "There isn't a great deal of awareness and understanding (of modern slavery), I would say particularly within the NHS and that is one of the reasons why we are holding this conference. More importantly it is about what frontline staff can actually do to both identify and act on the issue."

The Home Office estimates there are 13,000 victims of modern slavery in the UK, 55 per cent of them female. A third are children and 35 per cent of all victims are trafficked for sexual exploitation.

# **How could** he kill our brother in this way?

death by a homeless thug he regarded as a friend have spoken of their torment.

Richard Groves had allowed Darren Lander to stay at the flat at Alfred Gunn House in Thompson Road, Langley.

That act of kindness cost the 32-year-old his life as the vicious lodger battered Mr Groves around 40 times with

broken furniture during an

"It was a sustained attack with over 40 sites of injury with the most serious injuries on the face and head," said Mr Duck.

Lander was arrested outside the home of a relative in Halesowen.
Mr Richard Carey-Hughes QC, defending, said: "Richard Groves was his friend and he killed him in a serious outburst of temper."

## Life

Lander, aged 28, of no fixed address, pleaded guilty to murder and was jailed for life. He must spend at least 15 years and five months behind bars before being considered for provide. sidered for parole

sidered for parole.

Mr Groves was the youngest of five children and was
supported and loved by his
family despite falling foul of
drugs in his 20s.
Two of his brothers had
been helping him by providing furniture for the fifth
floor flat the day before his
death.

death.

Andrew Lowe, a sales manager and one of his brothers, recalled: "He was the baby of the family who loved his football and was kept on the straight and



THE FAMILY of a man brutally bludgeoned to

a large rock and a piece of

broken furniture during an argument.

The blows fractured his skull in several places and broke ribs, Mr Michael Duck QC, prosecuting, told Wolverhampton Crown Court.

said Mr Duck.

The 12 minutes of violence erupted after the men returned to the flat together on the evening of May 16.

The beating could have been triggered by an unfounded belief by Lander that money had been taken from his aunt by Mr Groves, the court heard.

Lander made no effort to get assistance as the man lay dying in the bedroom and continued to use the flat for the next two days before narrow by his four older brothers. Then he got mixed up with the wrong crowd when in his 20s but he was our brother and we did our best to get him off drugs. "Our mother passed away unexpectedly on March 12 and her funeral was the last

and continued to use the hat for the next two days before calling police to confess. He told the officer: "I need to be picked up. I have killed Richard Groves in the bedroom of his flat." Lander was arrested out-

# and the Inthera was the last time I saw Richard. He appeared to be doing well. "How could someone have taken his life in such a violent way? Richard was not a violent man. He would run in the opposite direction if there was any trouble. He certainly would not start it. "The horror of listening to details of the murder has been a painful experience for the entire family but we have had fantastic support from the police and would like to thank them and our friends for all their help." Another brother John Lowe added: "Although we will never truly get justice it Lowe added: "Although we will never truly get justice it is nice to know that Lander has got a long sentence and will not be able to harm anybody eig."

ybody else Lander maintained the Lander maintained the rock was kept as a weapon by the victim, who he claimed owed money to a drug dealer. He also claimed to be able to remember little of the assault because he suffered a 'blackout'.

Murderer Darren Lander

time I saw Richard. He ap-

Detective Inspector War-ren Hines said after the verdict: "Lander is a vio-lent, unstable thug who, in horrific circumstances, murdered somebody who had shown him kindness."



**Dudley Chronicle** 

# 14 Santas are on the run for Beacon

SEDGLEY-BASED sight loss charity, the Beacon Centre, is joining forces with RNIB to hold a Santa Run in Wolverhampton's West Park.

West Park.

Participants can run, walk or jog around the 5k course – the only requirement is that they wear a Santa suit while doing it. These will be provided by the charities to make sure runners really get into the spirit of Christmas. Those taking part get to keep the suit at the end.

The run takes place on Sunday, between 10.30am and 12.30pm.

The £10 entrance fee will go towards supporting the two organisations.

Youngsters are also welroungsters are also wel-come to go along with an adult and complete a one-mile lap of the park for a £5 ticket. They get a Santa hat to wear on the way around which they can take home.

As it's a flat course, it is also suitable for those liv-ing with sight loss who may want to take part.

Beacon Centre chief ex-Beacon Centre chief ex-ecutive Arwyn Jones said: "The Santa Run is a great way to spend time with your loved ones during this special time of year while raising money for two char-ities that help those with sight loss." sight loss.

To book a place, go to www.beaconvision.org/ Event/santa-run

The Beacon Centre provides residential services, an independent living centre and community ser-

# Baby Daisy's diagnosis inspires fundraising drive

A FAMILY have turned their heartbreak into a fundraising campaign after being told their newborn daughter has cystic fibrosis.

Mother-of-two Samantha Carrier struggled to cope after being told the diagnosis for Daisy, which was detected from a heel prick test five days after being born.

Samantha and her part-ner Rob Evans, from Gor-nal, raised £676 within

nal, raised £676 within seven days of finding out. Samantha said: "We had a knock on the door from a nurse from Birmingham Children's Hospital telling us she had tested positive. "We went straight to the hospital the next day to get the medication and get the process started. It was that day we decided we wanted to fundraise and put our minds fundraise and put our minds to something else to raise

# **Shouting**

"I started a JustGiving page with an aim over £1,000 over 12 months but we raised over half within a

On the first day it got up On the first day it got up to £500, which I couldn't be-lieve because I was running around shouting when we only had £100."
Cystic fibrosis is a genetic condition in which the lungs and directive system

lungs and digestive system can become clogged with

# By Lucy Thompson

mucus, causing problems with breathing and diges-tion from a young age. Over years the lungs become in-creasingly damaged.

A number of treatments are available to help but average life expectancy is reduced for people who have it.

"The hospital have been really positive but they said a treatment for the condition is being blocked by the Government because it's so expensive," says Samantha. "The aim of is to make

people aware of cystic fibro-sis and help push for that necessary treatment. We want to raise money for the trust because they're amaz-ing, they support families and fund new treatment."

Visit justgiving.com/fund raising/Fordaisyevans and supporters can also follow Daisy's story at www.face



Gornal mother Samantha Carrier with daughters Daisy and two-year-old Grace is boosting awareness of cystic fibrosis

# Remember **loved ones** at service

THE annual remembrance services are being held at Gornal Wood Cemetery and Crematorium next Sunday, December 11.

The services in the chapel at 11am and 3pm are intended for people who have had the funerals of loved ones take place at the site during 2016.

Tickets can be reserved from the office in Chase Road on (01384) 813782.

Road on (01384) 813782. Members of staff will be on hand for guidance

# **Festive concert** by ladies choir

A WOMEN'S choir from the Black Country cele-brating its 40th year is to hold a Christmas concert.

hold a Christmas concert.
The Lower Gornal-based
Ellenvale Singers host
Colours of Christmas at
Brierley Hill Civic Hall on
December 14 at 7.30pm
with special guests Sovereign Brass and pupils from
Poborts Primary School in Roberts Primary School in

Lower Gornal.

Tickets are £7.50 for adults and £3.50 for children, available at the box office on the night.

# Singing for joy at St Andrew's

A CHRISTMAS concert called Joy to the World, will take place at St An-drew's Church, in Sedgley, next Saturday, December from 7.30pm.
 Proceeds from the choral

event will go to charities. Tickets cost £5 which will include refreshments. To book call 01902 882197.

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and grounds



# Artists' 88th and last display at gallery



Artists Keith Turley, Lynn Jeffery and society chairman Terry Glazebrook at the town gallery's last exhibition

THE Dudley Society of Artists is holding its last exhibition at the town's museum and art gallery, a few weeks before the venue closes.

the venue closes.

The art group's 88th exhibition is to be the last at the St James's Road gallery. It opened on Saturday with 130 works by local artists on display.

When the free admission exhibition closes on December

tween the venue and the society. The museum is due to move to a new base at the Dudley Archives centre on Tipton Road, near the Black Country Living Museum. Artist and society member Keith Turley said: "It is a big blow but it is not going to stop our club and we will still exhibit at other Black Country venues."

The museum and gallery building is closing to the public as part of money-saving measures by Dudley Council.

A NEW £1m Co-op store will be built on the car park of a Black Country pub after planning bosses gave the green

The new shop will be constructed next to the Hare and Hounds Wynall Lane, Stourbridge, with the pub also getting an investment of around £75,000.

Developer NewRiver Retail

Dudley Council, despite objections, and said that up to 20 jobs could be

The development firm said money would also be spent revamping the Hare and Hounds.

# **Dangerous**

But Cradley and Wollescote Ward Councillor Richard Body was against the development because of more traffic on an already 'dangerous' road.

the road even more dangerous," he said. "Accidents happen on a regular basis. We have the main road with a blind bend and a bus stop next door to a pub, which will have half of its car park gone. Parking already takes place on the pavement.

The 326 square metre one-storey store will be built on part of the car park, which was described as 'cur-rently underutilised' in the planning



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SILICONES

# projects on right road, HUGE RANGE OF

projects are making 'real progress', according to the country's top highways executive.

Jim O'Sullivan, chief executive of Highways England, said five major projects – including the improvement of junction 10 of the M6 between Wolverhampton and Walsall – will bring more jobs and boost the region's economy.

boost the region's econom
He made the comments as
he gave the opening speech
of a two-day Highways UK
event at the NEC in Birmingham.
He said: "We are currently delivering more than
155 billion of investment
in over 100 major schemes
across England that will enhance, renew and improve
the network.
"It's fantastic to see key

"It's fantastic to see key projects like these in the Midlands making real pro-

# Strategic

"The Midlands is at the heart of England's strategic road network and invest-ment in schemes like these benefits the whole country.

benefits the whole country. This region really is the 'Midlands Engine' which drives the country." He said that planning is set to begin next month for the M6 junction 10 improvements with a public consultation launching in January. Construction is set to start in April 2019, finishing in late 2020.

The overhaul will see

The overhaul will see lanes going over the motorway increase from two to four with bridges rebuilt to

ease congestion.
The initial plans are at

# By Rob Golledge

the design stage but will be revealed early next year. More details will be announced shortly of how people can take part and find out more, he said.

The M6 junction 10 currently experiences significant congestion and traffic delays, particularly during morning and evening rush hours.

hours.

Road capacity problems
have been identified as one
of the main transport issues
facing the Black Country
within the West Midlands
Local Transport Plan. Highways England is working
with Walsall Council to deliver the overhead

It aims to remove the need for long term mainte-nance of the existing struc-ture as well as increasing

capacity at the junction and thereby reduce congestion. It is hoped this will im-prove access to nearby sites set for development and improve accessibility for cy-

clists.

He said key progress had been made on the £106m A45/A46 Tollbar End improvement scheme in Coventry.

# Concern over rates of academy exclusions COUNCIL bosses in Sandwell have contacted the regional schools commissioner over the number of exclusions at the borough's academies.

schools commissioner over the number of exclusions at the borough's academies.

A total of 105 pupils have been permanently excluded from academy schools in Sandwell over the last two years and children's bosses have flagged up concerns. Academies are not under council control.

are not under council control.

Continuous disruption, drug and alcohol abuse, threats towards teachers and fellow pupils were among reasons troublemakers were banned from classrooms. Sandwell Council said it had raised the number of exclusions with the regional schools commissioner.

The regional schools commissioner. Permanent exclusion is the most severe form of disciplinary action a school can take against a child. Headteachers are advised only to use the measure as a last resort. But figures for 2014/15 showed 44 children were excluded for 'persistent disruptive behaviour'.



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Former part time fireman Michael Jewkes with comrades in 1963





Mr Jewkes tests the old fire siren during his visit to Dudley



Love me tender – Mr Jewkes checks over the machin-ery left at the old factory fire station

# Firefighter 'Little Mike' takes a trip back in time

travelled back in time to a recently discovered, perfectly preserved factory fire station in Dudley, where he used to

work.

Michael Jewkes, aged 80, said it was an 'emotional to revisit the old station, which has been gathering dust for 60 years, and was only recently uncovered inside the Alan Nuttall Partnership factory on Hall Street.

Mr Jewkes' name is one of those on includes still harrings at the lest sta

MIT Jewkes name is one of those on jackets still hanging at the lost station, which was set up by his former employer the Co-operative Wholesale Society to tackle any fires that might arise in the course of manufacturing items for local Co-op stores.

Michael's journey into his past began after his granddaughter spotted the story on the Express & Star web-

site.

Mr Jewkes, who now lives in
Lowestoft, explained: "All the family
are originally from the area. My granddaughter lives in Yeovil but she still

# **MEMORY LANE**

reads the Express & Star online. She saw the story about it being discovered and told me. I called the number and spoke to Anna at the Alan Nuttall Partnership Trust and they arranged for me to come and visit."

## Frozen

He added: "I must admit. I was like a two-year-old child with a stick of rock. I couldn't believe it after all this

Nothing could have prepared Michael for just how much remained intact, almost as if it had been frozen in time, down to the neatly rolled-up canyas hoses still on the walls.

Particularly evocative for him was seeing all the names of his former colleagues scrawled in chalk above the jackets.

"I could hear all of the voices and all of the banter. I could remember the

"I hadn't been back for 54 years. It was very emotional. I was remembering all of my comrades. We used to look out for each other, like a big family."
Mr Jewkes explained how between

1960 and 1964 he worked at the fac-tory making safes for the supermarket business, but twice a week he would go for training as a firefighter in the company's small brigade of about 25. This included learning life-saving skills such as resuscitation.

He was relieved that he never had to put this into practice.

"The biggest job we had was prob-

ably when the paint shop caught fire, and the van was set alight. But fortunately everyone was out safely," he

He and his comrades proved their mettle in a competition with other Co-op forces with Mr Jewkes named champion. A certificate in recognition of this remains on display in the room



In action for an exercise to test firefighting skills, Michael Jewkes during his time in uniform

# Advertisement

ORKS' parties, fairy lights, expectant youngsters writing gift lists, creative school Nativity plays where the wise men are replaced by aliens - it must be Christmas

A time defined by more frenzied family activity than any other celebration on our calendars, stress levels begin to soar from the beginning of November

November.

But for a special group of people the normal irritating distractions that hinder festivities are magnified. Gift-buying, crowded store check-outs, seemingly ceaseless TV advertising for celebritybranded perfumes and carols being played in shopping centres all too early, are no more of a problem to them than the rest of us.

For these people, the real 'Ba humbug!' moments

are deeply personal - secrets that have been

cleverly hidden away for years.

Often feeling foolish at the very thought of a 'confession' they continue every Christmas to stoically endure the celebrations, aching for them to finish soon.

But the truth is this Christmas could be very different for those countless denture wearers whose teeth are no longer able to function the way they should.

## Hidden smiles

The natural harmonious fit that should exist be The natural harmonious fit that should exist between prosthetics and the soft tissues of the mouth is no longer there and the consequence is at best miserable, but regularly life-changing for worse. How do I know? For nearly 30 years I've been involved in denture provision and have been re-

sponsible for helping to resolve some of the worst-case scenarios ever to present to a dentist. If you have denture issues and are reading this, chances are I've encountered your denture problem many times.

Poor dentures can steal spontaneity - even the natural response to those Christmas joyous moments can be stifled as laughing can be perilous, with the lower prosthetic tilting and slipping. Sadly, laughing can also present an opportunity for the very worst of 'denture moments' when the prosthetic loses all adhesion.

And as for seasonal colds . . . coughing is something that, certainly for some, needs to be done



dentures - seeded breads



Ill-fitting dentures and



Dry turkey can also be a problem for ill-fitting teeth



Offering hope -

Burchell with Denture Clinic

nurse, Lvdia

principal

# Ĭ

The heralds of Christmas are all around us - lights, crowds of shoppers and the first flush of works' parties. For most people it all promises to be loads of fun, but for some who wear dentures, the seasonal frivolity is no laughing matter. Principal of the Denture Clinic and North Street Dental and Implant Clinic, STEVEN BURCHELL DipCDT RCS(Eng) GDC 108353, offers a timely message of hope

with teeth out. Stifled laughter, smiles hidden behind hands; is this any way to live when an answer can be so close at hand?

There are those too, whose days are strategically

planned around the need to replenish dental fixative on their teeth.

Copious supplies are needed, secreted away in handbags, bathrooms, kitchens, cars, pockets, bags

and other hiding places.

Just the simple task of eating a Christmas meal

can become a hurdle which demands 'must-have' strategies to survive the event.

Do you recognise any of the following?

The need for plausible excuses to leave the dining table to reload the dental fixative halfway through a meal

That you must be seated where as few people

as possible can see you eating

Have excuses already in mind for missing out on that hard, royal icing Christmas cake, or Christmas pudding infused with brandy...

Ensuring you don't have an extra glass of wine for fear of forgetting those dangerous den-tures which seemingly have a mind of their own

 Struggling with sore spots and longing for the meal to end soon. Just too much pain Needing to go home early, just to get your

eth out
Embarrassed by sunken cheeks and pinched lips and looking older than your years because your teeth are orally misplaced

Ashamed by the aesthetics of your dentures which look like they just don't belong to your

w dentures ready for Christmas Don't miss out! Limited numbers Traditional prosthetics only

Simply not wanting to join in the celebrations; always having to find a reason to avoid

socialising

A life ruled by dentures that just don't work

- especially where there's party food
No longer able to enjoy your favourite foods
Restricted diet and generally a poor nutritional intake on a daily basis

once heard of a tragic case where a lady in her 80s had lived her whole adult life as a "consum-

mate actress" because of failing false teeth.

She went out only to work, had no social life and rarely spoke to anyone.

She was deeply troubled by her dentures and the issues relating to them eclipsed her life.

A complex clinical case, I was privileged to help

transform her life for the better many years ago. She learned to live again in the latter years, mak-She learned to live again in the latter years, making new friends, going to restaurants and stopping
for conversations in the street. Her regret – and
mine too – that she just accepted her problem.
Afraid of the dentist and fearful her appointment
with me would disappoint, she suffered in silence.

## Call now

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done this years ago."

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# **Bright ideas** for home as we head into winter

# **ANTIQUES AND COLLECTIBLES**



the foul weather this week. I thought it would be nice to take a look around our homes and add some seasonal colour to help fight off those winter blues.

And there are all kinds of vintage items you could pick up in the saleroom to help do this, starting with attrac-

tive containers for dried flowers, twisted willow, firethorn or foliage that will instantly transform any room into a

brighter place. You can easily pick up some nice pieces at auction, go along to the viewing days and see what you can find -and you won't have to spend too much money

Look out for prettily decorated china jugs, the taller the better, but make sure you check for cracks to

ensure the jug is waterproof if you want it for fresh

Glass jugs and vases look great and you may be able to pick these up in some lovely autumnal colours, again look out for any cracks or chips before you buy.

Earthenware containers are always nice, large ones are perfect for displays of foliage in halls or sitting rooms, standing on the floor.

China vases in bright colours or featuring attractive designs are ideal for autumnal displays of flowers or foliage, even small ones will cheer up the corner of a

Unusual containers also look good, a pretty vintage soup tureen would provide a home for a larger display or a winter indoor



Then think about adding some lamps with colourful shades to provide some much-needed extra light.

Tiffany lamps in particular are especially attractive and you can pick up some nice reproduction ones if you don't want to pay out for originals. Potpourri is

good in vintage bowls and glasses and looks especially nice displayed

in layers in old glass vases.

Coloured candles, either standing alone or in groups, also add that extra cheery light, look out for gold and silver ones, and tea-lights can be housed in anything from a tea-cup to a wooden goblet.

rom a tea-cup to a wooden gooiet.

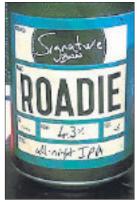
You can even make going out in the rain slightly
more pleasant by keeping umbrellas in a colourful umbrella stand or vintage plant bowl by your front door
(add a Victorian umbrella and a walking stick for ef-

So have a good browse around the saleroom to see what you can find to add that extra seasonal cheer

Perry and Phillips Auctioneers hold sales of antiques and collectables on the first Tuesday of each month. Valuation days, for sale items only, are held every Wednesday at the Mill Street saleroom in

Low Town, Bridgnorth, from 10am until 4pm.
The next sale takes place on this Tuesday, December 6, viewing is during the weekend and on the Monday prior to the sale. If you want to bid during the auction and are a new bidder please arrive in plenty of time to register and be allocated a bidding number.

# Raising a glass (or mug) to the latest trends



Music and beer: Signature cans

WITH this spell of colder weather we have taken our first autumn walk with a flask of mulled wine in the rucksack, a bit of a tradition and much enjoyed to warm the insides.

There is as much trend and style in what we drink, as what we wear and the popularity of certain drinks wax and wane every year.

Consider our staple coffee and teas, from the basics to the fragrant and flavoured, from the kettle and tea pot to the high street coffee house and the take-away caffeine hit. We have our favourite lattes, cappuccinos, expressos, cooling frappuccinos and herbal infusions.

cooling frappuccinos and nerval infusions. Even mineral water does not escape the specialist drinks market with 'hint of' fruit flavours, added vitamins and 'free from' all sorts! The shape of the bottle as important as the contents. At a restaurant meal recently we were delivered tap water in a beautiful coloured cooled glass bottle with a metal clamped seal, delightful!

Our need for healthy ingredients leads us to mixing our own fruit and vegetable smooth-ies, as much a meal and often replacing breakfast or lunch, juicers have also increased in popularity in the kitchen.



crushed ice drink.

The Cider revival continues, with seemingly never ending choice, sparkling, still, clear, cloudy, pear, apple, dark or light, clear, cloudy, pear, apple, dark or light. Bulmers, Strongbow and Magners spending considerable amounts on advertising to a welcome market. The choice of spirits and mixers is diverse, many types and varied flavours of gin, vodka and whiskey, some of these products promoted by celebrities such as David Beckham, Haig in its bright blue chunky bottle and Mila Kunis, the face of Jim Bean, and then presented in unusual drinking vessels, dressed with flowers and leaves, sold in elaborate bottles. orate bottles.

Music artists are putting their names to craft beers, getting involved in the creative process and the marketing. One of the breweries doing this is 'Signature Brew' (signaturebrew.co.uk), collaborating with the likes of Professor Green, Frank Turner and Enter Shikari, a great mix of music and beer. Micro breweries and pubs are opening in the small. breweries and pubs are opening in the small-est of retail units. The Merckx Belgian Bar in

est of retail units. The Merckx Belgian Bar in Eccleshall is worth a visit (merckxbar.co.uk) we are lucky enough to have Joule's Brewery on our doorstep (joulesbrewery.co.uk)

The choice of wine gets ever bigger, red, white and rose from every country of the world but the vineyards of the UK now produce some beautifully flavoured offerings at reasonable prices. Italian Prosecco becomes the new favourite over Cava and Asti and sweet wines with dessert are worth investigating.

Whatever your alcoholic tipple beware of

Whatever your accononc tipple neware or the alcoholic content, with all the new options it can vary dramatically...Cheers all! Visit www.jflexclusive.com and www. jflgarmentsolutions.co.uk Follow: jfllifeandloves on tumblr



# Money misdemeanours may cost you thousands



Money expert Martin Lewis

ARE you a sinner? Financially that is. There are a host of every day money misdemeanours that millions of people do, costing them thousands, without being aware of it.

These aren't horrors like grabbing a payday loan, but the result of simple misunderstandings, bad habits or inaction. I've collated five of the most common.

Savings rates are depressingly low
 the top easy-access rate is one per cent.
Credit card and other interest rates are de-

Credit card and other interest rates are depressingly high.

So £1,000 credit card debt at 18 per cent costs it costs you £180 a year, the same amount saved in top paying savings account at one per cent interest only earns you £10. If you had both, pay the debt off with your savings and you'd be £170 a year better off. Many of you will be thinking, "but I want to keep my savings, what if the boiler packs up or the roof falls in?" However, that's a sentimental strategy, not a logical one.

If you don't pay the debt off with the savings and an emergency happens that cost you £1,000 to fix, you'd use all your savings and still £1,000 of credit card debt.

If you do pay off the debt with the sav-

If you do pay off the debt with the sav-

ings, and a £1,000 emergency happens, you'd need to pay for it on your credit card, meaning you still have no savings and £1,000 of credit card debt.

meaning you still have no savings and £1,000 of credit card debt.

The end result of them both is the same, yet by paying off the debt with the savings, you save in the meantime.

2. Most people in the UK are on their energy firm's standard tariff, which typically means they're overpaying by £300 a year. The best plan is take five minutes to do a full market comparison via my www. Cheap-EnergyClub.com or any www. Ofgem.gov.uk approved comparison site.

Even if you won't do that, just pick up the phone and ask your current provider "Am I on your cheapest tariff?" and, if not, switch to that as there's no change but the price.

3. Credit card minimum payments are based mostly on a percentage of the balance, which only just covers the interest. So you hardly clear any off.

A 30-year-old with £3,000 debt on a credit card at 17.9 per cent interest, who made only typical minimum repayments, would take £7 years to clear it. By then, they'd be 57 and have paid a total cost £4,000 in interest (see my minimum repayment calc at www.mse.me/minrepay to work out how long it'll take you).

around £70 a month. If instead of opting to around 270 a month. It instead of opting to pay the minimum, fix your repayment at £70. The debt will clear in five years at a cost of £1,500 in interest, saving £2,400. Though if you've debt on more than one credit card, focus all spare cash on repaying

the most expensive, making only the minimums on the others. That way you get rid of the most expensive debts first.

4. Your house price is the wrong figure,

4. Your house price is the wrong figure, you only need to insure the usually much lower rebuild cost – literally how much it would cost to rebuild your home should it get knocked down. This is often far less than the market value.

5. I'm often freaked out by parents telling me they're saved up so their child won't have to pay tuition fees at uni. Worse, some even extend their mortgage. My problem isn't just that actually it's students', not parents' responsibility to repay this.

All new English full-time students can get a tuition fee loan and a living loan to help pay for uni costs. You're eligible to start repaying in the April after leaving, but only if you earn over £21,000.

Most of course will earn over the threshold. However only high earners will earn

old. However only high earners will earn enough to repay in real terms what they borrowed within 30 years. For most parents it's better to build up a mortgage deposit.

# theticate







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# Roy Wood



Thursday, 8pm Inursday, 8pm Robin 2, Bilston The Wizzard from Brum is bringing his rock 'n' roll band – so expect to See My Baby Jive before everyone joins in with I Wish It Could Be Christmas Every Day. See therobin.co.uk

# **ROCK** & METAL

Call 0121 200 3030

The Subterraneans Tonight - tomorrow, The Jam House, Birmingham, B3

Fleetwood Bac - The Fleetwood Mac Tribute Show Tonight, £8 - £10
The RoadHouse Bimingham,
Kings Norton, B30 3DZ.
Call 0121 246 2273

Into The Shadows Tonight, £12.50 Huntingdon Hall, CrownGate Shopping Centre, Worcester, WR1 3LD. Call 01905 611427

Gordon Hendricks – The Ultimate Elvis Tribute Tonight - Sun, £22.50 Theatre on the Steps, Bridgnorth, WV16 4BD. Call 01746 766477

The Beat Tomorrow, The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton, WV1 1HP. Call 01902 552122

Darkside performing The Pink Floyd... Tomorrow, Wulfrun Hall, Wolverhampton, W1 1RD.

Call 01902 552122

The Born Again Beatles +

Tomorrow, £6 - £7
The RoadHouse Bimingham,
Kings Norton, B30 3DZ.
Call 0121 246 2273

From The Jam performing 'The History of the The Jam's Singles including B Sides' Tomorrow, £20 - £22.50

The Robin 2, Bilston, Call 01902 401211

The Smyths – The Songs That Saved Your Life Tour Tomorrow, O2 Academy Birmingham,

B1 1DB. Call 0121 622 8250 Eliza and the Bear

Sun, O2 Academy Birmingham, B1 1DB. Call 0121 622 8250

Against Me! O2 Academy Birmingham, B1 1DB. Call 0121 622 8250

**Bullet For My Valentine** Tue - Wed, O2 Academy Birmingham, B1 1DB. Call 0121 622 8250

# Kate Tempest



Sunday, 7pm O2 Institute 2, Birmingham The forthright poet and rapper, who recently released her second album Let Them Eat Chaos, brings tales of desperation from the streets of London. See academymusicgroup.com/o2institutebirmingham

Pure Improv: Muso Jam Night

Thu, Free The RoadHouse Bimingham, Kings Norton, B30 3DZ. Call 0121 246 2273

Total Uprawr, The Asylum, Bir-mingham, B19 3LS. Call 0121 233 1109

Symphony Hall, The International Convention Centre, Birmingham,

Thu, Barclaycard Arena, Birmingham, B1 2AA. Call 0121 780 4141

**Boy Wood Bock & Boll Band** 

One Night of Rock Thu, £27.44 Malvern Theatres, WR14 3HB.

Barclaycard Arena, Birmingham,

Iconic 80s Christmas Party

Night Tonight, £8 The River Rooms, Stourbridge, DY8 1JN. Call 01384 397 177 or 07986 577 661

The Frankie Valli Story – Jersey Boys feat. Stephen James Wed, £8 - £10

Wulfrun Hall, Wolverhampton,

Meilyr Jones + special guests

Thu, £9
The Sugarmill, Stoke-on-Trent, ST1 1DR.
Call 01782 214991

The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ. Call 01902 401211

Joe Longthorne

WV1 1RD. Call 01902 552122

CLASSICAL

Fazeley, Tamworth,

Festive Nights at Drayton Manor Hotel Tonight - Thu, Drayton Manor,

Thu, £20 - £22 The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ.

Call 01902 401211

Call 01684 892277

Toniaht - tomorrow.

Call 0121 780 4141

P<sub>O</sub>P

**Rod Stewart** 

The Story So Far

The Bootleg Beatles Thu, £29.50

B1 2EA. Call 0121 780 3333

Placebo

# Viennese Christmas by Candlelight

Thu, St. Paul's, St. Pauls Square, Birmingham, B3 1QZ.
See http://londonconcertante.
com/concerts.http

# JAZZ, SOUL, FUNK **MOTOWN & REGGAE**

UB40 - Ultimate 40 Tomorrow, £8 The River Rooms, Stourbridge, DY8 1.IN Call 01384 397 177 or 07986 577 661

Jazz Tuesdays Tue, Spotted Dog, Digbeth, Birmingham, B12 0NH. Call 0121 772 3822

Faulkner Tue - Wed, The Jam House, Birmingham, B3 1QU. Call 0121 200 3030

Up4 The Downstroke

The Jam House, Birmingham, B3 1QU. Call 0121 200 3030

# **CLUBBING**

Tomorrow, £4
The Sugarmill, Stoke-on-Trent,
ST1 1DR. Call 01782 214991

# FOLK, COUNTRY & ACOUSTIC

The Dylan Project Thu, £20 Huntingdon Hall, CrownGate Shopping Centre, Worcester, WR1 3LD.

# COMEDY

From Ibiza To The Norfolk Broads

Call 01905 611427

Tonight, MAC, Cannon Hill Park, Birmingham, B12 9QH. Call 0121 446 3232

The Catherine Tate Show - Live Tonight, Wolves Civic, WV1 1RD. Call 0870 320 7000

Jimmy Carr: The Best Of, Ultimate Gold, Greatest Hits Tour Tomorrow - Sun, Wolves Civic, WV1 1RD. Call 0870 320 7000

Christmas Queens featuring Michelle Visage

Ved, O2 Institute Birmingham, Digbeth, Birmingham, B5 6DY. Call 0121 631 1800

# **Primal** Scream



Sunday, 7pm O2 Institute, Birmingham The venue will be taken to a funky-electro-psych meltdown with Glaswegian rock god Bobby Gillespie (pictured) still at the helm after 34 years. See academymusicgroup.com/o2in stitutebirmingham

# Josh Widdicombe: What Do I Do Now

Wolves Civic, WV1 1RD. Call 0870 320 7000

# **THEATRE**

Treasure Island
Tonight - Thu,
Birmingham Repertory Theatre, Library of Birmingham, B1 2EP. Call 0121 236 4455

Sunny Afternoon Tonight - tomorrow, Regent Theatre, Stoke-on-Trent, ST1 1AP. Call 0844 871 7649

An Evening with Archers actress Sunny Ormonde Tomorrow, £14 Artrix, Slideslow Dr, 1527871580, Sat 03 Dec, £14.00 http://artrix.co.uk/whats-on/theatre-dance/an-evening-with-arch-ers-actress-sunny-ormonde/

A Christmas Carol Tomorrow - Thu, The Crescent Theatre, Brindleyplace, Birmingham, B16 8AE. Call 0121 643 5858

Sister Act Mon - Thu, £33.60 - £44.80 Malvern Theatres, WR14 3HB. Call 01684 892277

City Songbirds at Christmas Mon - Wed, Victoria Hall, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent, ST1 3AD. Call 0844 871 7649

Keep Dancing Tue - Thu, New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham. B5 4DS. Call 0121 643 5536

# **CULTURE**

Art Lates :: Bubbles & Blues Tomorrow, Birmingham Museums Art B3 3DH. Call 0121 348 8007

Florentine Arts Ensemble: Dahl's Norwegian Landscape

Tonight, The Barber Institute of Fine Arts, University of Birmingham Edgbaston, B15 2TS. Call 0121 414 7333

Birmingham Wine Tasting Experience Day 'World of Wine' with Wine Unearthed Tomorrow, £89 Bank Restaurant & Bar, Prindleyslass Brindlevplace. Birmingham, B1 2JB. Call 0121 633 4466

# Josh Widdicombe



Thursday, 7pm Civic Hall, Wolverhampton 'What Do I Do' asks the Devonian comedian following his most success-TV sit-com Josh and as a regular on Channel 4 show The Last Leg. See wolvescivic.co.uk

# War Artists Lecture Series

Tomorrow, The Barber Institute of Fine Arts, University of Birmingham, Edgbaston, B15 2TS.

Christmas Food & Craft Fayre

Tomorrow, Weston Park, Weston-under-Lizard, Shifnal, TF11 8LE. Call 01952 852100

Seasonal markets

Tomorrow, Croome, High Green, Worcester, WR8 9DW. Call 01905 371006

Sleeping Beauty – The Pantomime of Dreams

Tomorrow, Lichfield Garrick, WS13 6HR. Call 01543 412121

Tomorrow Erasmus Darwin House, Lichfield, WS13 7AD. Call 01543 306260

Christmas crafts

Tomorrow, Croome, High Green, Worcester, WR8 9DW. Call 01905 371006

**Christmas Celebrations** 

Tomorrow, Museum of the Jewellery Quarter, Birmingham, B18 6HA. Call 0121 554 3598

A Night of Miracles

Tomorrow, Stourbridge Town Hall, DY8 1YE. Call 01384 812960

Ludlow Orchestra

Tomorrow, Ludlow Assembly Rooms, SY8 Call 01584 878141

Ex Cathedra: Christmas Music by Candlelight Tomorrow, St Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, WV1 1TY. Call 01902 422642

**Sunday Classics** 

Sun, Spotted Dog, Digbeth, Birmingham, B12 0NH. Call 0121 772 3822

**Christmas Creations** 

Sun, £4 - £6 RBSA Gallery, Birmingham, B3 1SA. Call 0121 236 4353

Reindeer Mask Decorating Sun, Creative Coffee Hub, Birmingham, B29 6HJ.

Check out full listings in the ticket in Friday's Express & Star

# Sit Down and get up for James gig



Tim Booth, centre, as James play one of the festival dates that have made them perennial British rock scene favourites

MANCHESTER indie rock heroes James are in concert at Wolverhamp-ton Civic Hall on Wednesday, following their most successful year since the band reunited in 2007.

the band reunited in 2007.
The festival favourites fronted by
Tim Booth, who first got together in
1982, have won a loyal legion of fans
with such rock anthems as Sit Down,
Come Home, Sound and She's A Star.

The band's latest album, Girl At The End Of The World, went straight into the UK album charts at no2, second only to Adele.

## Glastonbury

In a career yielding 14 studio albums, the group has sold more than 12 millions albums worldwide and have become regulars on the festival

circuit, including V and this year's Glastonbury.
Yorkshire-born frontman Booth, a

former Shrewsbury School pupil, is now based in California. "We moved here to take some of that Californian laid back optimism," says Booth. "It's starting to seep in. It takes a while to get over the more wired English edg-iness that is still probably with we"



# **Encore** for Roachford

scene in the late 1980s with the hits Cuddly Toy and Family Man as the linchpin of the band

Toy and Family Man as the linchpin of the band that carried his surname.

Raised in south London to West Indian parents, he was born into a musical family and first hit the road at the age of 14 gigging with his jazz saxophonist uncle Bill Roachford. "I was in the middle of that whole jazz scene which was an interesting education," he says. "It taught me musically, how to listen and how to entertain. My uncle always told me that you had to give people a show."

Signed to a seven-album deal with Columbia Records, Roachford went on to become that record label's biggest sell-

Roachford went on to become that record label's biggest sell-ing domestic act for more than ten years. Andrew Roachford also became an in-demand songwriter

for such as Michael Jackson and Chaka Khan.
Recent years have seen him writing and singing on top selling dance tracks and touring with Mike And The Mechanics.
"I'm always pushing myself as an artist," he says. "When it comes to songwriting, I naturally gravitate to digging deep That's how it works for me."

His latest album, Encore, was released in the summer and his latest single was a funked-up version of Bill Withers soul classic Ain't No Sunshine. Roachford is in concert at Bilston's Robin 2 venue on Tues-

day. Support comes from Birmingham singer-songwriter Rosie O'Sullivan.

# Civic in comedy heroes hat-trick

IT'S a big week for comedy with Catherine Tate following up her Catherine Tate following up her show at the Barclaycard Are-na last night (Wednesday) by bringing such characters as Nan Taylor, Geordie Georgie and, if she can be bovvered, sulky teen-ager Lauren Cooper to Wolver-hampton Civic Hall tomorrow (Friday). She will be assisted by Gavin & Stacey actor Mathew Horne.

Horne.
Gag-machine Jimmy Carr brings his 'Best of, Ultimate, Gold, Greatest Hits Tour' to the Civic for consecutive nights on Saturday and Sunday. The Last Leg regular Josh Widdicombe completes a comedy hat-trick for the Civic on December 8.

# **Keep Dancing with Louis and Robin**

STRICTLY speaking it's not officially endorsed by a certain Beeb ballroom blockbuster, but fans of fancy movers may well enjoy Keep On Dancing at New Alexandra Theatre from Tues-

day to Saturday, December 10.

The Birmingham venue hosts
a latin and ballroom dancing spectacular featuring 2012 Strictly Come Dancing winner and Olympic gymnast Louis Smith. Among the professional dancers is former Strictly fa-vourite Robin Windsor.

With guest singers between the jives, tangos and salsas, the show is from the same team behind hit shows Spirit Of The Dance and Puttin' On The Ritz.

# Jam packed with hits at the Robin

MORE than a tribute band, From The Jam featuring original Jam bassist Bruce Foxton will play all his former band's singles, including B sides, at the Robin 2 in Bilston on Saturday

Other key gigs include Brum shoegazers Jaws back home in Digbeth at the Rainbow Warehouse tomorrow (Friday)

Heavy metal outfit Bullet for My Valentine focus on new album Venom at the O2 Acadanoum venom at the O2 Academy, Birmingham, on Tuesday, returning the following night to perform 2005 album The Poison. Influential rockers Pixies have sold out O2 Academy on Thursday, December 8.



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# **CHOICE**



# NCIS: New Orleans

(Channel 5, 8pm) Last week, Merri Brody appeared to fall for the man that mothers warn their daughters about, the one that is too good to be true. Homeland Security Agent John Russo, who was part of the investigation when Brody tracked evidence in the death of an Army general back to Washington DC, set up shop in New Orleans, giving him a cover for his drug smuggling operation. In tonight's explosive season two finale, the NCIS team are partnered with Homeland on the case of a murdered Navy diver, and there are implications that indicate a link to a terrorist attack on the Big Easy. Percy eventually finds some of those explosives that are wired and ready to blow. But can she work quick enough to defuse the bomb?

6.00 Breakfast. 10.00 Saturday Kitchen Live. 11.30 James Martin: Home Live. 11.30 James Martin: Home Comforts. 12.00 Football Focus. 1.00 BBC News; Weather. 1.15 Live Snooker: UK Championship. 4.30 Final Score. 5.25 Celebrity Mastermind. (R) 5.55 BBC News.
6.05 Regional Programme

6.10 Pointless Celebrities. Soap stars Joe Swash and John Altman, Nick Pickard and Ali Bastian, Victoria Bush and Zaraah Abrahams, and Sharon Maughan and Tina Hobley take part in the quiz show. (R)

Sharon Maughan and Tina Hobley take part in the quiz show. (R)

7.00 Strictly Come Dancing. The five remaining couples bring a taste of Broadway to the studio, as Musicals Week arrives in the ballroom. The lyrical extravaganza gets under way as the presenters and judges join the contestants on the dance-floor for a big opening number. However, the more pressing matter of this week's competitive performances quickly overtakes proceedings, as the proceeding the proceeding of the proceeding the process of the public a chance to have the irea say on this evening's performances.

Michael McIntyre's Big Show Michael invites Sarah Millican to take to the stage, and singer-songwriter Tom Odell also performs. Plus, Westlife's Shane Filan spring a surprise on this week's Unexpected Star.

week's Unexpected Star.

9.00 Casually, Ethan struggles to bury his feelings for Alicia, as she and Cal become increasingly intimate, while Charlie and Duffy announce their relationship.

9.50 The National Lottery Live. Gaby Roslin presents the all-important.

9.30 Ine National Lottery Live. Gaby Roslin presents the all-important winning numbers.

10.00 BBC News; Weather.

10.20 Match of the Day, Gary Lineker presents highlights of the latest Premier League games; National Lottery Update.

11.45 The NFL Show. Mark Chapman lokes at the major stories shaping the NFL world.

12.15 Film: Dragonfly. (2002) 1.55 Weather for the Week Ahead. 2.00 BBC News.

### RRC2

6.00 Film: Mighty Joe Young. (1949) 7.30 Film: Ray Harryhausen: Special 7.30 Film: Ray Harryhausen: Special Effects Titan. (2011) 9.00 Natural World: Chimps of the Lost Gorge. (R) 10.00 Secret Britain. (R) 11.00 Homes Under the Hammer. (R) 12.00 The Best Dishes Ever. (R) 12.30 Hairy Bikers' Best of British. (R) 1.30 Film: Rebecca. (1940) Romantic thriller, with Laurence Olivier and Joan Fontaine. 3.35 Flog It 4.30 Las Secoker LIK! Champingelia. Live Snooker: UK Championship.

But an orbital state of the control Bath second row Dave Attwood, also coming back into the fold. Commentary by Andrew Cotter and Brian Moore.

7.00 Live Snooker: UK Championship.
Coverage of the second semi-final
on the 11th day at the Barbican
Centre in York, as the prestigious
ranking tournament continues. At this stage of last year's event, Neil this stage of last year's event, Nei Robertson produced an outstanding performance to whitewash Mark Selby, as he progressed to the showpiece match with a 6-0 victory. Presented by Hazel Irvine, with a resented by Hazel Hivlie, with a commentary team that includes Steve Davis, Ken Doherty, Stephen Hendry, John Parrott, Dennis Taylor, and John Virgo. Subsequent programmes are subject to change.

10.00 Mock the Week. James Acaster, Rob Beckett, Ed Gamble, Sara Pascoe and John Robins join host Dara O Briain and regular Hugh Dennis. (R)

Dennis. (R) 10.30 Film: The Dresser. Drama based on Ronald Harwood's successful play, about an ageing actor and his personal assistant. Starring Anthony Hopkins. (R)

12.15 Film: III Manors. (2012) 2.10 This

Kids. 6.10 Grizzly Tales for Gruesome Kids. (R) 6.20 Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) 6.35 Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) 6.40 Thunderbirds Are Go. (R) 7.00 Super 4. (R) 7.15 Oddbods. (R) 7.25 Scrambled! Scrambled! 7.30 Scrambled: Nerds & Monsters. (R) 7.50 Scrambled! Nerds & Monsters (R) 7.50 Scrambled! Herdf Henry (R) 8.10 Scrambled! Henrif Henry (R) 8.10 Scrambled! Henrif Henry (R) 8.10 Scrambled! Be Cool. Scooby-Dool 9.05 Scrambled! Adventure Time (R) 9.25 ITV News. 9.30 Film: Carry On Girls, (1973) 11.10 All Star Family Fortunes. (R) 11.55 ITV News: Weather 12.05 Judge Rinder (R) 1.05 Cash Trapped (R) 2.05 Film: St Trinian's (2007) Comedy, starring Rupert Everett 4.00 Thunderbirds Are Go. 4.20 The Chase. (R) 5.25 Regional Programme; Weather.

Weatmer.

6.00 Tipping Point: Lucky Stars. Ben Shephard presents the celebrity quiz, in which contestants Harry Redknapp, Denise Van Outen and Audley Harrison answer questions to win turns on an arcade-style machine. Last in the series.

7.00 Meet the Parents. Manchester's Olivia Davidson-Slack, and Will Oakley from Southampton interview the families of potential

interview for the families of potential such as the families of potential sudding show. Last in the series.

The X Factor. The tension reaches fever pitch as the semi-linalis arrive, and the four remaining acts are once again called to perform in front of judges Louis Walsh, Sharon Osbourne, Nicole Scherzinger and Simon Cowell. Each of the live show rounds to date could have resulted in any of today's semi-finallists leaving the competition, and it's that wealth of experience each of the competitors will be hoping to draw upon as they tackle their most meaningful challenge to date.

I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of

challenge to date.

30. I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here! Ant and Dec present the celebrity challenge, as the famous faces' ordeal in the Australian jungle draws tantalisingly close to its conclusion.

10.35 ITV News, Weather.

10.50 Film: 10.00 BC. (2008) A young mammorth-butter crosses the

mammoth-hunter crosses the wilderness to rescue his lover and fellow villagers from slave raiders. Prehistoric fantasy adventure, starring Steven Strait

12.45 Jackpot247. 3.00 ITV Nightscreen

## **CHANNEL 4**

6.10 Gillette World Sport. 6.35
Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 7.00
Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 7.00
Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 7.30
Everybod

Winter Sun.

6.30 Channel 4 News.

7.00 China: Between Clouds and Dreams. The documentary exploring the private side of life in China concludes, as novice monk. Gama begins his studies at the country's largest Tibetan monastery. Wumingsi is home to 20,000 monks and nurs, and Gama befriends one who is dedicated to saving the rare snow leopard. In central China, reporter Xu leads a band of Volunteers in a leopard. In central China, reporter Xu leads a band of volunteers in a desperate struggle against "electro-fishing", vinchi involves the mass killing of fish using electricity. However, Xu's struggle electricity. However, Xu's struggle results in a humiliating personal attack against him by the People's Daily. Meanwhile, in Beijing, four young journalists eagerly await the results of a national competition. Last in the series.

Britain at Low Tide. Tori Herridge and Alex Langlands visit Essex to investigate the earthwork remains 8 00 of a Tudor fort, and spot a German U-boat stranded in a creek. Last in

9.00 Film: Now You See Me. (2013) Film: Now You See Me. (2013)
Four majciness use their lawsh stage shows as cover for a series of seemingly impossible heists, and give away the money the steal to their audiences. An Epil su discover how a team of expet oldscover how the baffing robberies are committed and what the secret agenda behind the crime spree is. Crime thriller, starring Jesse Elsenberg.

starring Jesse Eisenberg.

1.15Film: Glue: Retaliation. (2013)
An elite military team battles a
terrorist organisation that has
replaced the US president with an
imposter. Action adventure sequel,
with Dwayne Johnson.

1.20 Hollyoads. (R) 3.25 Location.
Location. Location. (R) 4.20 George
Clarle's Amazing Spaces. (R) 5.15
Kirstle and Phil's Love It or List It. (R)

# **CHANNEL 5**

6.00 Milkshake! 9.50 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R) 10.25 The Gadget Show. (R) 11.25 Film: This Christmas. (2007) 1.35 Film: A Fairytale Christmas (2013) Romantic drama, starring C Thomas Howell and Haylie Duff. **3.20** Film: A Belle for Christmas. (2014) Premiere. Family adventure, starring Dean Cain. **5.10** Film: Mrs Miracle. (2009) Family drama, starring Doris

7.05 NCIS. Three similar executionstyle killings take place, and the team discovers one of the victims was going through a messy divorce. His widow falls under suspicion of committing the first

divorce. His widow lalls under suspicion of committing the first two crimes to mask the murder of her husband – but, unfortunately for the agents, she has an alibl. Starring Michael Weatherly. (R) NCIS: New Orleans. The team's efforts to track down 900lbs of stolen explosives are stalled when a bomb goes off in the city. The amount used still leaves the unknown terrorists with enough high explosive to level a large portion of the city. When Russo reveals Homeland Security knew the attack was orchestrated by a gang of South African explosive to level a large portion of the vicy. When Russo reveals Homeland Security knew mercenaries, Brody is forced to question what her new lover's real agenda might be. The situation becomes even more awkward when it becomes clear Russo has been involved in a String of cases had resulted in mysterious. that resulted in mysterious fatalities. While Pride and Sonja head out in search of the remaining explosives, Brody works together with Patton and Sebastian to investigate her new boyfriend's credentials. Naval crime drama, guest starring Ivan Sergei. Last in the series. 8.55 5 News Weekend. 9.00 Football on 5: The Championship.

George Riley and Lynsey Hipgrave introduce highlights from the weekend's games in the Championship.

Championship.

10.20 Film: The Frozza Ground. (2013) Premiere. A state trooper tries to bring a serial killer to justice with the help of the only woman to escape from him. Fact-based 12. rtis met drama, with Nicolas Cage.

12. rtis met drama, with Nicolas Cage.

13. superCasino. 3. 10 The Boy Who Can't Stay Awake. (R) 4.00 Celebrity Botched Up Bodies. (R) 4.50 House Doctor. (R) 5.40 Angles fol Jarm. (R)

5.50 Roary the Racing Car. (R)

## **DIGITAL**

7.00 Roman Britain: A Timewatch Guide 8.00 Egypt's Lost Queens 9.00 Modus 10.30 Top of the Pops: 1982 11.45 Reggae at the BBC 1.15 Old Grey Whistle Reggae at the BBL 1.15 UIG regy writistle Test: Reggae Concert from the Edinburgh Festival 2.00 Sounds of the 70s 2.30 How Quizzing Got Cool: TV's Brains of Britain 3.30 Close

ITIV2

11.00 I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here!
12.30 Celebrity Catchphrase 1.30 You've Been Framed Gold at Christmas! 3.05
Film: Beethoven's Christmas Adventure (2011) 4.05 FYI Daily 4.10 Film: Beethoven's Christmas Adventure (2011) 4.55 I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here!
6.25 Film: The Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon Emperor (2008) 7.25 FYI Daily 7.30 Film: The Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon Emperor (2008) 8.30 Scorpion 9.30 The Xtra Factor Live II.00 Family Guy 10.35 I'm a Celebrity Extra Camp 11.35 Family Guy 12.35 American Dad!
1.05 Film: American Pe (1999) 2.05 FYI Daily 2.10 Film: American Pe (1999) 2.50 FILM: American Pe (1999) 2.50 Felbeshopping 5.50 ITV2 Mightscreen

Nightscreen

11.40 Foyle's War 5.50 A Touch of Frost 8.00 Doc Martin 9.00 The Booze Cruise 11.10 Lewis 1.15 Wycliffe 2.15 ITV3 Nightscreen 2.30 Teleshopping

11.10 Pawn Stars 2.00 Film: All Quiet on the Western Front (1979) 3.00 FY Daily 3.05 Film: All Quiet on the Western Front (1979) 5.05 Fishim: Police Academy 5.10 Film: Police Academy 2: Their First Assignment (1985) 8.10 FYI Daily 8.15 Film: Police Academy 2: Their First Assignment (1985) 9.00 Film: 16 Blocks (2006) 10.00 FYI Daily 10.05 Film: 16 Blocks (2006) 11.05 Film: 10 Blocks (2006) 11.05 Film: Universal Soldier: Regeneration (2009) 12.20 FYI Daily 12.25 Film: Universal Soldier: Regeneration (2009) 1.00 Car Crash Global 2.00 Hell on Wheels E4 11 10 Pawn Stars 2 00 Film: All Quiet on

E4
11.30 The Goldbergs 1.30 Film: Clueless (1995) 3.30 Rude(ish) Tube Shorts 3.50 The Big Bang Theory 7.20 Film: The Twilight Saga: New Moon (2009) 10.00 Tattoo Fixers 11.00 Gogglebox 12.05 The Inbetweeners 1.10 Rude Tube 3.10 New Girl 4.55 Revenge

Film4
11.00 20 Million Miles to Earth (1957)
1.00 Epic (2013) 3.05 Carry On
Constable (1960) 4.50 Congo (1995)
7.05 Men in Black (1997) 9.00 Taken 2
(2012) 10.50 Horms (2013) 1.10 Hellboy
(2004) 3.35 Close



# **Dudley Chronicle**



CHOICE

# I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of (ITV, 9pm)

It is now 21 long days since this year's batch of famous faces Adam Thomas, Carol Vorderman, Joel Dommett, Jordan Banio, Larry Lamb, Lisa Snowdon, Ola Jordan, Sam Quek, Scarlett Moffatt and Wayne Bridge - entered the New South Wales jungle. Tonight, Ant and Dec present the final of the celebrity survival challenge as the last remaining celebs complete their ordeal. As usual the presenters will be springing a few last-day surprises on the contestants, including, no doubt, the infamous annual eating challenge and another daily task. Which of the final line-up will succeed Vicky Pattison and be crowned King or Queen of the Jungle this evening?

## BBC<sub>1</sub>

6.00 Breakfast. 7.30 Match of the Day.
(R) 9.00 The Andrew Marr Show. 10.00 (R) 9.00 The Andrew Marr Show. 10.00 Fern Britton Meets Nigel Benn. 11.00 Regional Programme. 12.15 Bargain Hunt. (R) 1.00 BBC News; Weather. 1.15 Escape to the Country. (R) 1.45 FA Cup Final Score. 4.20 Planet Earth II. (R) 5.20 Songs of Praise. 5.5 BBC News. 6.10 Regional Programme. 6.20 Countrylie. The team explores Lincolnshire, where John Craven

meets a farmer harvesting sprouts in time for Christmas and finds out

in time for Christmas and finds out and tempt to cross-breed the traditional festive vegetable with kale. Anita Rani discovers how robots are being used to pul up weeds, reducing the need for chemicals, and Ellie Harrison visits abandoned RAF buildings that are now home to bats. Including weather for the week ahead.

Strictly Come Dancing: The

Strictly Come Dancing: The Results. Tess Daly and Claudia Winkleman present the results of last night's show and reveal who will not be going through to the semi-finals. Featuring music from Elaina Paign. Elaine Paige

Elaine Paige.

8.00 Planet Earth II. Wildlife that inhabit the world's grasslands, exploring how animals adapt to survive in areas that endure sor of the most dramatic seasonal changes seen in the world.

My Mother and Other Strangers My Mother and Uther Strangers.
Rose's sister Vera arrives in
Moybeg for her annual visit and
takes a liking to Captain Dreyfuss,
forcing Rose to open up about hei
feelings for the American officer.

10.00 BBC News.

10.20 Regional Programme 10.30 Match of the Day 2. Mark Chapman reviews the day's

Premier League action, as Bournemouth faced Liverpool at the Vitality Stadium and Everton hosted Manchester United at Goodison Park.

11.35 Sunny D. Dane dreads having to introduce Nicola's father, who despises him, to his own parents.

oespieses min., on its own parents.
The meeting is made even more stressful when it clashes with a work football match.

11.55 Citizen Khan. Mr Khan wants to meet Alia's boytriend's parents, but finds the boy is nervous at the prospect—leading to a sweaty confrontation in a sauna. (f)

12.25 Weather for the Week Ahead.

## RRC2

6.00 The A to Z of TV Gardening. (R)
6.45 Big Dreams Small Spaces. (R) 7.45
Life in a Cottage Garden with Carol Klein. (R) 8.15 Carol Klein S Plant Ogysseys. (R) 6.45 Saturday R. (R) 6.45 Saturday R

6.00 MOTD: FA Cup Highlights. Manish MOTD: FA Cup Highlights. Manish Bhasin presents action from the second-round matches, which saw the remaining 40 teams battle it out for a potentially lucrative spot in round three. Matches included Bolton Wanderers v Sheffield United at the Macron Stadium, Millwall be raintree Town at the Den, Port Vale v Hartlepool at Vale Park and Charlton Athletic v Milton Keynes Dons at the Valley. Live Snooker: UK Champjonship. Coverage of the second session of the final from the Barbican Centre in York, as the tournament widely regarded as the second-most prestigious on the calendar

in York, as the contrainent work prestigious on the calendar concludes. Australia's Niell Robertson emerged triumphant in the showpiece match at flast year's event, as he capitalised on a 5-3 lead from the opening session by going on to lift the trophy with a 10-5 victory. Presented by Hazel Irvine, with a commentary team that includes Steve Davis, Ken Doherty, Stephen Hendry, John Parrott, Dennis Taylor, and John Virgo. Subsequent programmes are subject to change.

11.00 IXL. David Mitchell, Noel Fielding and Holly Walsh join Alan Davies and host Sandi Toksvig to contemplate questions on the theme of "night" in an extended edition of the panel show.

11.45 Jazzie 8 S 1908s: From Dole To

11.45 Jazzie B's 1980s: From Dole To Soul. The Soul II Soul frontman

Soul. The Soul II Soul frontman opens up about the decade that made his career, and the against the-odds story of a young black British musician who became a chart-topping artist. (R)

12.45 Film: Three Fugitives. (1989) A reformed bank robber is an innocent bystander in a heist, but when he is assumed to be guilty he goes on the run with the actual crook. Comedy, with Nick Notle and Martin Short. 2.20 Sign Zone: Countryfile. The team explores the Brecon Beacons. (R) 3.15 Holby City. Matteo's arrival irritates Jac. (R) 4.15 This Is BBC Two.

6.00 CTTV: Grizzly Tales for Gruesome Kids. 6.10 Grizzly Tales for Gruesome Kids. (R) 6.20 Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) 6.35 Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) 6.45 Sooty. (R) 6.55 Signed Stories. (R) 7.05 Usper 4. (R) 7.15 Oddbods. (R) 7.25 Scrambled!: Scrambled! 7.30 Scrambled!: Hords & Monsters. (R) 7.50 Scrambled!: Horrid Henry. (R) 8.10 Scrambled!: Looped. 8.30 Scrambled! Thunderbirds Are Go. 9.05 Scrambled!: Adventure Time. (R) 9.25 ITV News. 9.30 Bear Grylls Survival School. 10.00 Peston on Sunday. 11.00 Best Walks with a View with Julia Bradbury. (R) 11.30 Let's Do Christmas with Gino & Mel. (R) 12.30 ITV News; Weather. 12.35 The Chase. (R) 1.35 The X Factor. (R) 3.05 Midsomer Murders. (R) 5.00 Tipping Point. (R) 5.00 Tipping Poin

6.30 Off Their Rockers. Louie Spence checks out Seb's dancing skills.

CHECKS OUT SEUS CAILCING SKINS.

7.00 The Next Great Magician. The Wanted's Tom Parker and the cast of TOWIE are on hand to assist another group of magicians with their performances, which include mind-reading and levitation acts.

meir perrorrances, winch include mind-reading and levitation acts.

8.00 The X Factor. Dermot O'Leary reveals which acts are guaranteed a place in next week's final. The remaining performers must compete in a sing-off before one more is eliminated from the contest.

9.00 I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here! Ant and Dec present the final of the 16th series, as the remaining three famous faces take on the last challenges in the Australian jungle. Viewers' votes will decide who has been this year's favourite contestant, and when the results are in, this year's King or Queen of the Jungle will be crowned, before the last handful of contestants return home. The crowned, before the last handrul or contestants return home. The presenters will be catching up with the contestants later in the week for a special follow-up show as they return to normal life after the hardships of the Bush.

hardships of the Bush.
10.35 ITV News; Weather.
10.50 Peston on Sunday. (R)
11.50 Premiership Rugby Union.
Highlights from the 10th round of fixtures, which included Sale
Sharks v Exeter Chiefs.

12.40 Jackpot247. 3.00 Motorsport UK. 3.50 ITV Nightscreen. 5.05 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R)

## **CHANNEL 4**

6.10 The King of Queens. (R) 6.35 The King of Queens. (R) 7.00 The King of Queens. (R) 7.25 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 7.55 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.25 Frasier. (R) 9.00 Frasier. (R) 9.30 Sunday Brunch. 12.30 Jamies Cracking Christmas. (R) 1.30 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 2.20 The Simpsons. (R) 1.35 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 2.20 The Simpsons. (R) 2.50 The Simpsons. (R) 3.20 Flum: School of Rock. (2003) Comedy, starring Jack Black. 5.35 Film: Miracle on 34th Street. (1994) Christmas family drama remake, with Richard Attenborough. 7.35 Channel 4 News.

7.35 Channel 4 News.
8.00 Escape to the Chateau. Fresh Escape to the Chateau. Fresh from the success of hosting a three-day wedding at the chateau, but here day wedding at the chateau, blick and Angel make business plans for the grounds, intending to charge people to fish in the moat and forage in the woods. Angel starts work on a second guest suite, but also wants to install an elevator, which pushes Dick's engineering skills to the limit.

engineering skills to the limit.

9.00 Humans. Athena challenges Milo about his unethical plans, and is shocked to discover the true extent of the tycoon's armbitions. Max decides to start a new community of synths, and takes matters into his own hands when he learns how far Leo is prepared to go in pursuit of his goals. Mattle is not sure who to trust with her secret, and Mila has a revelation that has shocking consequences for the Hawkins family.

10.00 Gogglebox. Capturing the households' instant reactions to what they are watching on TV from the comfort of their own sofas. (R)

the comfort of their own soias. (H)

11.05 8 Out of 10 Cats. Treverent panel show hosted by Jimmy Carr, in which two teams answer questions based on opinion polls to see who best understands what is going on in Britain today.

(R)

12.05 The bask of Acade Service was some control of their contr

what is going on in Britain today.

(R)

12.05 The Last Leg. A comic review of the past seven days. (R) 1.00 60 Days in Jail. Department store security guard Jeff enters as the last volunteer. (R) 1.50 Film: A Pigeon Sat on a Branch Reflecting on Existence, (2014) Comedy, starring Holger Andersson and Nils Westblom. 3.3 Shipping Wars UK. (R)

4.10 George Clarke's Amazing Spaces. A project to transform a Victorian railway signal box into a summerflouse. (R) 5.0 Location, Location, Location. Kirstie and Phil search for homes in Cambridgeshire. (R)

## **CHANNEL 5**

6.00 Milkshake! Milkshake! Monkey.
6.05 Milkshake! Bop Box. (R) 6.10
Peppa Pig. (R) 6.15 Angelina Ballerina.
(R) 6.25 Bot be Builder. (R) 6.40
Wanda and the Alien. (R) 6.50 Zack and
Ouack. (R) 7.00 Seaside Antics. (R) 7.05
Fireman Sam. (R) 7.15 Pip Ahoy! (R)
7.30 Little Pinchess. (R) 7.45 Paw Patrol.
(R) 8.05 Blaze and the Monster
Machines 8.30 Noddy in Toyland. (R)
8.45 Ben and Holly Little Kingdom. (R)
8.55 Shimmer and Shine. (R) 9.25
Peppa Pig. (R) 9.35 Peppa Pig. (R) 9.45
Ben and Holly Little Kingdom. (R)
9.55 Fiendage Mutan Ninja Turtles. (R) 10.30
Football on 5: The Championship. (R)
11.50 Funniest Falls, Falls & Flops. 12.20
Film: The 12 Gifts of Christmas. (2015)
Premiere. Comedy, starring Katrina Law.
2.05 Film: Call Me Claus. (2011)
Christmas family drama. starring Whoopi
Goldbern 3.56 Film: The 4th Halls z. 95 Film: Call Me Claus. (2001)
Christmas family drama, starring Whoopi
Goldberg. 3. 50 Film: Deck the Halls.
(2006) Christmas comedy, starring
Danny DeVito and Matthew Broderick.
5. 45 5 News Weekend. 5. 50 Film:
Bulletproof Monk. (2003) Martial arts
thriller, starring Chow Yun-Fat.
7.40 Film: Hallbow II- The Caldon-

7.40 Film: Hellboy II: The Golden Army. (2008) The demon superhero, aided by a team from the Bureau of Paranormal Research and Defence, leads the fight against renegade elf Prince Nuada who is intent on Nuada who is intent on reawakening an unstoppable robot army and bringing about the demise of mankind. Action fantasy sequel directed by Guillermo del Toro, starring Ron Perlman, Selma Blair, Doug Jones and Luke Goss. Edited for violence and language. Includes 5 News Update at 8.40pm.

8.40pm.
10.00 Film: Green Lantern. (2011)
Premiere. A pilot Joins a galactic
peacekeeping force with incredible
powers and delends Earth from an
starring Fyan Reynolds and Blake
Lively. Includes 5 News Updat at
11pm.
12.15 Film: Academics 1

Lively, includes 5 news updat at 11pm.

12.15 Film: Zoolander, (2001) A dim male model's career starts to decline and he fails to realise he is a pawn in a dangerous game of international espionage. Comedy, starring Ben Stiller and Owen Wilson. 1,50 Supercasino. Live interactive gaming. 3.10 Tour de Celeb. Eight familiar faces train to tackle one of the toughest stages of the Tour de France, (R) 4.00 House 5 to August 200 Jamm. (R) 5.50 Roary the Racing Car. Flash tries to avoid being kicked out of Silver Hatch. (R)

Now

## **DIGITAL**

BBC Four
7.00 The Plying Archaeologist 7.30
Britten's Endgame 9.30 The Turner Prize
2016: The Nominees 10.00 Stonyville:
Forever Pure - Football and Racism in
Jerusalem 11.25 Cosmonauts: How
Russal Won the Space Race 12.55
Monkey Planet 1.55 Blink: A Horizon
Guide to the Senses 2.35 Egypt's Lost
Queens 3.35 Close

ITV2

11.25 The X Factor 1.00 I'm a Celebrity
Get Me Out of Here! 2.00 Film:
Beethoven's Christmas Adventure (2011)
3.50 Film: The Polar Express (2004)
5.50 I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here!
6.50 Film: The Incredible Hulk (2008)
9.00 The Xtra Factor Live 10.00 Family
Guy 10.35 I'm a Celebrity Extra Camp
11.35 Family Guy 12.35 American Dad!
1.30 The Cleveland Show

ITV3

2.45 Film: Columbo: Dagger of the Mind (1972) 2.50 Film: The Nun's Story (1959) 3.55 Film: The Nun's Story (1959) 3.55 FV Daily 4.00 Film: The Nun's Story (1959) 5.50 Foyle's War 8.00 Lewis 10.00 Alexander Armstrong's Land of the Midnight Sun 11.00 A Touch of Trost 1.00 Film: Santa Claus: The Movie (1985) 2.05 FVI Daily 2.10 Film: Santa Claus: The Movie (1985) 3.00 May the Best House Win 4.40 Wycliffe

ITV4
11.00 Cash Cowboys 12.00 Pawn Stars
12.55 Film: All Quiet on the Western
Front (1979) 1.55 Yi Daily 2.00 Film: All
Quiet on the Western Front (1979) 4.00
Film: Tobruk (1967) 5.00 FYI Daily 5.05
Film: Tobruk (1967) 6.10 Film: Police
Academy 2: Their First Assignment
(1985) 7.10 FYI Daily 7.15 Film: Police
Academy 2: Their First Assignment
(1985) 7.10 Py Daily 7.15 Film: Police
Academy 2: Their First Assignment Academy 2: Their First Assignment (1985) 8.00 Premiership Rugby Union 9.00 Film: Jaws 3 (1983) 10.00 FYI Daily 10.05 Film: Jaws 3 (1983) 11.05 Film: Rambo III (1988) 1.10 Fishing Impossible 2.10 Hell on Wheels

11.30 Made in Chelsea 12.35 First Dates Abroad 1.30 Film: Addams Family Values (1983) 3.25 Rude(sis) Tube Shorts 3.30 The Goldbergs 5.30 The Big Bang Theory 9.00 Film: The Mechanic (2011) 10.50 Tattoo Fixers 11.50 The Inbetweeners 12.55 Rude Tube 2.30 Tattoo Fixers

11.00 The Three Stooges (2012) 1.00 Miracle on 34th Street (1947) **2.55** The Rugrats Movie (1999) **4.30** City of Ember (2008) **6.15** Clear and Present Danger (1994) **9.00** Men in Black II (2002) **10.45** A Time to Kill (1996) 1.40 Wild Bill (2011) 3.50 Close

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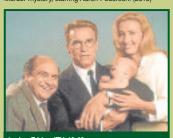
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# **FILM CHOICES**

Hats Off to Christmas!, Channel 5, 3,15pm A small-town hat shop employee resents being asked to train her boss's son for a job she wants for herself, but warms to him when he shows an interest in helping her son with a project. However, she remains seems confirmed when he is tempted to leave for New York. Romantic drama, with Haylie Duff. (2013)

## Mystery Road, BBC1, 12am

An Aboriginal Australian detective returns to his home town in the Outback to investigate the murder of teenager. He finds himself treated as an outsider by the local police, but also ostracised by his own community – including the daughter he left behind. Murder mystery, starring Aaron Pedersen, (2013)



### Junior, Friday, ITV, 10,40pm

# Defending Santa, Channel 5, 3.15pm

A small-town sheriff finds a man asleep in the woods who claims to be Santa Claus. The mysterious stranger goes to court to prove he is who he claims to be, leading to an increase in Christmas spirit among the locals and romance between the lawman and the ence attorney. Festive drama, starring Dean Cain, Bill Lewis and Jodie Sweetin. (2013)

Christmas Confession, Channel 5, 3.15pm When a struggling actress returns to her hometown for Christmas, a holiday romance makes her realise the life she left behind may be better than the one she has started in New York. Romantic drama, starring Sarah Lancaster and Garry Chalk. (2015)

Junior, ITV, 10.40pm
A fertility expert pioneers a treatment enabling men to become pregnant and carry babies to full term. When the authorities cancel funding for the research, he decides to test it on himself, but gives little thought to how difficult it will be to keep it a secret. The situation is further complicated when he starts to fall for the woman whose child he is carrying. Comedy, with Arnold Schwarzenegger and Danny DeVito. (1994)

# Duo look to hit all the right notes Together

ichael Ball and Alfie Boe. At first glance, it looks like an odd pairing. Both of them have hugely successful careers, so why would they team up? Why not carry on going it alone and take sole credit for all their achievements?

Well, as they say, two's company Being on the road is lonely, so having somebody with you who understands the rigours involved is probably rather pleasant. This duo also seem to enjoy the banter that

During their recent gigs, they have poked fun at the drama surrounding the US Presidential election. Admittedly, it's not exactly high-class satire, but it's an awful lot more interesting than just some bloke standing there belting out a big tune.

Both Ball and Boe are noted for their vocal talents and charisma, but they're not the huge egos that some stars tend to be, which is probably another reason why they work together so well. They have an easy charm and common tawls that charm and common touch that appeals to people of both sexes and all classes

both too cheesy for their own good – although with millions of record sales between them, you could argue that their demeanours have worked a treat for them so far. Besides, neither of them seem to care – in fact, there's even a sense of ironic self-awareness within their performances.

Boe and Ball have recently released a joint album, which is rather obviously titled Together, and now they appear to be joined at the hip, having appeared on the Strictly Come Dancing results show a few weeks back; they're also touring the pation as we snaak nation as we speak

But now they're heading for a TV near you courtesy of this one-off programme.

"We've got an album, we've got a tour and now we've got an ITV special," says Ball. "You can't get better than that. We have some great material to share with the viewers; I can't wait to get started."

Boe adds: "We had such a laugh naking the album, making our owr

TV show is going to be great. Make sure you tune in for some special performances."

The boys' album features their own unique takes on such classic tunes as For Once in My Life, When You Wish Upon a Star and You'll Never Walk Alone. On tour they've added the likes of Ain't Tha a Kick in the Head and Tell Me It's Not True.

Expect at least some of those to appear here, alongside a medley of songs from Les Miserables.

songs from Les Miserables.

Joining them on stage will be singer-songwriter Rick Astley as well as Olivier Award-winning performer Maria Friedman, who counts appearances in Chicago, Ragtime and Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamosat on her resume, although most viewers will recognise her from her stint as Elaine Peacock in EastEnders.

It promises to be wonderful night of entertainment, and just remember two is better than one, which means we should get double the fun from this duo.



Ball and Boe: One Night Only, Friday, ITV, 9pm

# **BEST OF THE REST**

# MONDAY

### Brits Icon - Robbie Williams ITV. 9pm

Elton John and David Bowie. What they have in common? They're legends, of course. Bona fide superstars whose songs have become classics they're also the only two previous winners of the Brit Icon award. Adding his name to that list is Robbie Williams. Now, we don't want to criticise the Robster, but few would regard him quite so highly as the aforementioned duo, and therefore might suggest that he doesn't deserve to be regarded alongside such luminaries. However, he's won more Brit awards than anybody else in history - 18 in total, if you count the five he won with Take That and his Icon trophy. To celebrate, Williams plays a special gig featuring highlights from new album The Heavy Entertainment Show, as well as a few old favourites, and there's a look back at archive footage from throughout his music career.

### TUESDAY This Is Us Channel 4, 9pm

Do you believe in star signs? If not, this new drama series may leave you wondering if your date of birth does have some influence over your life after all, as it explores the interweaving existences of a variety

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of individuals who share the same birthday - and more besides. In the first episode, Jack is determined that his wife Rebecca should celebrate her birthday, even if she is a bit preoccupied with the fact that she's pregnant with triplets. Meanwhile Randall marks his special day by tracking down his absent father, and sitcom star Kevin and his twin sister Kate are dealing with personal crises of their own. The impressive ensemble cast includes Mandy Moore, Milo Ventimiglia and Sterling K Brown, who recently won an Emmy for The People v OJ Simpson.

# WEDNESDAY In Plain Sight

New series. Drama series set in 1955 based on the true story of Lanarkshire detective William Muncie's quest to bring to justice notorious Scottish killer Peter Manuel, With Manuel having being released from prison after a nineyear sentence for housebreaking and sexual assaults, he attacks a young woman and keeps her with him in an open field for most of the night before returning to Brits Icon - Robbie Williams, Monda

his home, and Muncie is convinced further crimes are certain to be committed.

### Big Life Fix with Simon Reeve BBC2, 9pm

New series Simon Reeve and a team of inventors try to help people in need, creating solutions to everyday problems, beginning with a terminally ill photographer who can no longer use his hands to operate a camera. They attempt to bring cuttingedge technology to a remote Welsh village which has no internet access and an unreliable telephone connection, and give some control back to a young designer who has

Parkinson's disease and who has been unable to use a pen since developing tremors in her hands two years ago.

> THURSDAY **Grand Designs:** House of the Year Channel 4, 9pm

Kevin McCloud

on George Clarke's Amazing Spaces territory this week, as he turns his attention to five properties which have made clever use of small sites. Among the places in the running for the title of House of the Year 2016 is an ultra-stylish one bedroom space for living and working, which boasts an experimental garden roof. Kevin discovers how a dark mews has became a light and airy home, visits a Dungeness house that combines beach living with high architecture, and calls in on a particularly ingenious extension in Harrogate. He also learns how a narrow beachfront garage has made over into a stunning house with enough room for an extensive art collection.

# FRIDAY Friday Night Supper Club Channel 4, 11.55pm No, this is not a spin-off from the popular sitcom

Friday Night Dinner. Instead, it's a competition between six of Britain's hottest chefs, who go headto-head in a post-pub showdown, Alex Szrok, Imran Bashir, Elizabeth Allen, Andrea Michelon, James Cochran and Lee Tiernan are the culinary geniuses taking part, and they'll be whipping up tasty. inventive new dishes that can be easily replicated by using everyday staple ingredients, including chicken, beef and rhubarb.



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Thinking space

# **BRAIN GYM**

No.406

# Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off. Ü Ĺ LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION: M U K A C G J S Y W B Q V

# **Double Crossword**

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

1. No voucher for the

upturned (3)

3. The Marine is

confused by those who fly over (6)

French modulation

about ten more (5)

4. Lack of vigour of

5. Rate revision is

6. They produce

revolutionary

devices (12)

7. Study the south-

populated (5)

gear? (5-4)

13. Get better for the

east - it's thickly

10. Splendid speed one

attains in bottom

14. The aim is to protest

single-minded! (6,6) 2. Barrel of fruit

# Cryptic Clues:

- 1. Dexterous chief
- assistants (5-4,3)
  7. He gives an alternative to the fellow (5)
- 8. Don't drop the fish 9. Manage to take
- part in the sports
- 10. Food at the back of the meadow for the bird (9)
- 11. An idea for making her toy (6) 12. A name for the
- warden? (6) 15. Round which people hold hands
- 17. Part of a delectable inflorescent garland 18. Heather and I
- unusual care (5) 19. It's produced by
- (6) 16. The first of the one strange tree (5)

  21. Below the proceeds for certain contracts
  - governors in control as a rule! (5) 20. Its apple is a gall (3)

### Quick Clues: Across

- 1. Dumb (12)
- 7 At that point (5)
- 8. Corn (5) 9. Tear (3)
- 10. Powerlessness (9)
- 11. Stimulate (6)
- **12.** Bog (6)
- 15. Enrage (9)
- 17. Fire-arm (3)
- 19. Below (5)
- 21. Cleverness (12)

## Down

- 1. Middle (12) 2 Part of foot (3)
- 3. Hair-raising (6)
- 4. Merry (9)
- 5. Retinue (5)
- 6. III-timed (12) 7. Subject (5)
- 10. Mediate (9)
- 13. Wrath (5)
- 16. Sham (5)
- 20. Excavate (3)

# Sudoku

2				3				9
4			5		2		3	7
	3				7		4	
		7	8		3	6		
8								5
	2	5	4		6	7		
П	9						1	
3			2		9			8
6				1	8			4

Fill in the grid below so that every column every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits

SOLUTIONS >								
	50	-	,,,	0	40	-		_
	3	4	7	6	2	8	9	5
	6	8	9	3	5	1	4	2
	1	2	5	4	9	7	6	8
	9	5	4	1	6	3	8	7
	7	6	2	5	8	9	1	3
	8	1	3	2	7	4	5	9
	5	7	1	8	4	2	3	6
	4	9	8	7	3	6	2	1
	2	3	6	9	1	5	7	4

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS: CRYPTIC - Across: 4 Epitaph; 8 Alight; 9 Joining; 10 Tacked; 11 Iulers; 12 Foresail; 18 Listence; 20 Sconer; 21 Forage; 22 Arrange; 23 Talent; 24 Secrets Down: Mastiff; 20 Iscard; 3 Sheat; 5 Profiles; 6 Tingle; 7 Penury; 13 All right; 14 Engaged; 15 Arrests; 16 Course; 17 Unitair; 19 Trojan, OUICK - Across: 4 Disease; 8 Runner; 9 Achieve; 10 Valley; 11 Decant; 12 Inactive; 18 Catholic; 20 Bursar; 21 Intact; 22 Illegal; 23 Serene; 24 Snippet. Down: 1 Prevail; 2 Unclean; 3 Reject; 5 Incident; 6 Evince; 7 Saving; 13 Increase; 14 Gleamed; 15 Scatter; 16 Sullen; 17 Asleep; 19 Hunger.

## Quiz

- Who was born Elizabeth Angela Marguerite Bowes-Lvon?
- On which island is the Foreign Legion's main base?
- Which Bond producer died in
- 4. What are divided into tropical. continental and rain-shadow?
- What type of plant is traveller's joy?
- 6. Who composed The Dream of Gerontius?
- Who wrote The Seagull?
- Which group had a UK hit single in 1996 with Virtual Insanity?
- 10. To what did Rangoon change its name

### Last week's solutions:

Quiz: 1 Josiah Spode: 2 Saltpetre or nitre:

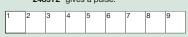
- 3 Estonia; 4 Mario Andretti;
- 5 Opportunity Knocks: 6 Penicillin: 7 A:
- 8 Turnip; 9 Virgo; 10 Snake

Niner: DISMANTLE

# Niner

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters

> 936875 gives a vegetable,1449 gives a second vegetable, 248972 gives a pulse.



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**Your Chronicle** 

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- ✓ Free time in London and Windsor

3 days, by coach





It's tea time at Bettys Cafe Tea Rooms







# Just my cup of tea — there's nowt better than York for a city break

THE ancient capital of northern England was known to the Romans as Eboracum, to the Vikings as Jorvik. But we know it as York, an historic city that

we know it as York, an historic city that has remained vibrant and fashionable. It is one of Britain's great city break destinations with something for everyone – whether a history buff, a shop-til-you-drop consumer or a connoisseur of good pubs and quality restaurants.

The foremost must-see sight is the colossal York Minster. It is 500 feet long, 100 feet wide with a central tower 200 feet high. Taking more than 250 years to build, it first opened for worship more than 500 years ago. It is the largest medieval gothic cathedral north of the Alps and the magnificent edifice is more than matched by a glorious interior with impressive stained glass windows.

Nearby is the Shambles with its medieval half-timbered buildings tilting towards each other. It is said to have inspired Harry Potter's Diagon Alley. It is the most famous street in a city that has a labyrinth of snickelways and ginnels, passages best experienced when darkness falls and you can join one of several ghost walks.

join one of several ghost walks.

There are more than three kilometres of city

By Leon Burakowski

walls to explore or take a boat trip on the River Ouse. You can spend days delving into the past at the Yorkshire, York Castle or National Railway museums. Experience 10th century life at Jorvik Viking Centre with its costumed inhabitants. For those with a sweet-tooth, York's Chocolate Story tells of the city's famous confectionery families, Craven, Terry and Rowntree, with tastings. A trip to York is not complete without visiting Bettys, a Yorkshire institution. The uniformed staff serve a range of teas in the proper old fashioned way. The formidable afternoon tea has three-tiers of delicious savoury sandwiches, scones with jam and cream, and array of divine cakes. Tea in the elegant art deco surroundings of the cafe tearooms on St Helen's Square is a treat – and you can take home a packet of Bettys own special tea blend. Just a short drive from the city is Castle Howard, familiar from TV and film as the home of the Flytes in Evelyn Waugh's Brideshead Revisited. It is one of the finest stately homes in Britain. The monuments on the road to the mansion declare

monuments on the road to the mansion declare you are approaching somewhere special.

Built in the 1700s by Sir John Vanbrugh for the Earl of Carlisle and his family, the Howards, it is full of antiquities and artworks that the Howards brought to their palace in the hills. The Great Hall is breathtakingly impressive. The informative exhibition reveals that the Howards had lives every bit as dramatic as the Flytes.

### Moors

North Yorkshire Moors Railway steams through

North Yorkshire Moors Railway steams through forests and heathlands from the market town of Pickering to the old fishing port of Whitby. Harry Potter fans may recognise the remote station Goathland as Hogsmeade, station for Hogwarts. Whitby is famous for its gothic abbey ruins, where Count Dracula took refuge on arrival in England in Bram Stoker's novel. Thus it is a magnet for goths who explore the graveyard of St Mary's, where the headstones of long dead mariners have weathered into coral-like patterns. It's 199 steps down to the town to buy the local Jethack jewellery or visit the house where explorer Captain Cook learned his craft. Whatever you do, don't leave Whitby without enjoying a fish and chip supper. There's nowt better. supper. There's nowt better.

# **FACT FILE**

When planning a trip to York see When planning a trip to York see www.visityork.org website. The York Pass, available for one, two or three days, provides admission to more than 30 attractions in York and North Yorkshire, giving a major saving for those on the tourist trail. To buy a York Pass or for more information centre on 01904 550099, email info@yorkpass.com or visit www.yorkpass.com For further information on Bettys see www.bettys.co.uk/tea-rooms/locations/york and an online shopping service is available at www. bettys.co.uk

Nicholas Fair runs until December 23. See www.visityork.org/christ mas for details. Other useful websites include www.castlehoward.co.uk and www.nymr.co.uk

Your Chronicle



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8 days, by AIR

Departing Sunday 9 July 2017

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# Four-bedroomed detached decorated to a high standard

residence, 37 Ashton Park Drive, Brierley Hill, is for sale through The Lee Shaw Partnership at

The superb accommodation to this home includes a master en-suite, two reception rooms and a breakfast kitchen, a landscaped garden and single garage.

The internal decoration has all been done to a high

The property is also well-placed for a wealth of amenities including schooling, GP services, a large supermarket and Stourbridge town centre.

In more detail, the central reception hall has laminate flooring, stairs to the first floor and a guest cloakroom off which has a fitted white suite. There is also direct access from the hall into the garage, which houses the Baxi central heating boiler.

There is also a formal dining room while the lounge has a feature fire surround, laminate flooring and patio doors to the rear garden.

The kitchen is fitted with a range of wall and base high gloss units with contrasting worktops and a host of integrated appliances. There is dining space and access to the rear garden.

There are four first floor bedrooms, three having wardrobes. The master has an en-suite shower room. The principle bathroom comprises a white suite with bath, a pedestal washbasin, a low level WC, flush ceiling lights and splash-back wall tiling.

To the rear is a paved patio and lawn with borders.

There is also an additional hard standing with sizeable garden shed and gated side access.

The Lee, Shaw Partnership offers a comprehensive range of homes and lettings in the West Midlands, North Worcestershire and South Staffordshire area

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# BRIERLEY HILL £267,500



# **KEY FEATURES**

2 receptions Master en-suite Convenient position Beautifully presented Garden







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# Modern town house in a popular location

HALESOWEN £165,000

A modern two and a half storey end town house in Bethesda Gardens, Halesowen, lies on a popular development.

Having accommodation over three floors, it is for sale through Hicks Hadley at £165,000. It has reception hall, lounge, fitted dining kitchen, four bedrooms with two having en suite shower rooms, house bathroom and garage. The property has gas central heating, double glazing, driveway and front and rear gardens. The reception hall has laminate flooring and stairs to both the ground floor and first floor accommodation. Bedroom one has an en suite and a fitted wardrobe. Stairs lead down from the reception hall to the ground floor hallway. Off this is the dining kitchen with a range of units, fitted oven and hob with stainless steel canopy over, integrated fridge/freezer.

Contact Hicks Hadley on 0121 585 6667.









# Refurbished home complete with extended kitchen diner

WORDSLEY £165,000



Beautifully refurbished to a high standard, this gorgeous home in Brierley Hill Road Wordsley, Stourbridge includes a splendid reappointed bathroom and an impressive extended dining kitchen.

It is for sale through Taylors at £165,000.

With a garage and drive to the rear its accommodation briefly comprises an entrance hall, a guest cloakroom/ WC, a sitting room where far distant views can be enjoying, a kitchen with a dining area, three bedrooms and a contemporary bathroom with a white suite.

The selling agents are expecting that the sale of this property will attract substantial interest. For further information or to book that all important viewing, please contact the selling agents on 01384 395555 or visit the site www. taylors-estateagents.co.uk



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# at Aston Villa Football Ground



**52 Grosvenor Road, Lower Gornal** 2/3 Bedroom Dormer Bungalow **Guide: £110,000 - £115,000** 



1 Damson Wharf, Tipton 2 Bedroom End Terraced House Guide: £55,000 plus



19 Prince Street, Dudley 2 Bedroom Mid Terraced Property Guide: £60,000 plus



**125 Wrights Lane, Cradley Heath** 3 Bedroom Semi Detached House **Guide: £84,000 - £88,000** 



112 St Peters Road, Netherton 3 Bedroom Semi Detached House Guide: £120,000 - £125,000



2 Damson Wharf, Tipton Residential Investment Property Current Gross Income: £4,920 pa. Guide: £55,000 plus

















# **AUCTION** 8TH DECEMBER 2016

at Aston Villa Football Ground

# Midlands' Leading Auctioneers



59 Hembs Crescent. Great Barr

A Vacant Leasehold Semi Detached House with the Benefit of Garage and Majority **UPVC** Double Glazing however, the Property is in Need of Modernisation/ Improvements Throughout Guide: £39,000-£44,000

View Sat 3 Dec 15:30 & Mon 5 Dec 14:45

4 Sutherland Road, Goldthorn, Wolverhampton

A Vacant Freehold 4 Bedroom Detached House with the Benefit of Central Heating however, is in Need of Modernisation Throughout Guide: £99,000 plus



View Mon 5 Dec 12:15 & Wed 7 Dec 14:00



125 Fraser St, Wolverhampton 2 Bed Mid Terraced House Guide: £19.000-£24.000



48 Castle View, Wolverhampton 3 Bed Semi Detached House Guide: £29,000-£34,000



24 Dawson Street, Walsall

A Vacant Freehold 3 Bedroom Semi Detached Property, with the Benefit of Central Heating. which May Have Development Potential, Subject to Obtaining the Necessary Planning Guide: £19,000-£24,000



42 John Street, Bilston 3 Bed End Terraced House Guide: £39,000-£44,000



40 Sandon Rd, Wolverhampton 3 Bed Semi Detached House Guide: £50,000 plus



10 Chillington Place, Wolverhampton 2 Bed Semi Detached House Guide: £29,000-£34,000



115 Mansion Crescent, Smethwick 3 Bed Mid Terraced House Guide: £50,000 plus

View Mon 5 Dec 10:00 & Wed 7 Dec 16:15



153 Parkfield Rd, Wolverhampton 3 Bed Semi Detached House Guide: £50,000 plus



27 Leys Road, Brierley Hill 3 Bed Mid Terraced House Guide: £19,000-£24,000



5 Perry Avenue, Wolverhampton 3 Bed Semi Detached House Guide: £29,000 - £34,000



34 Lindley Avenue, Tipton 3 Bed Semi Detached House Guide: £50,000 plus

View Sat 3 Dec 14:45 & Mon 5 Dec 15:30



45 Helming Drive, Wolverhampton 2 Bedroom Bungalow Guide: £39,000-£44,000



186 Waterloo Rd, Wolverhampton 3 Bed Semi Detached House Guide: £50,000 plus



9 Bristol Street, Wolverhampton 2 Bedsits & 1 Flat Investment Current Gross Income: £14,400 pa Guide: £29,000-£34,000



14 Bay Avenue, Wolverhampton 1 Bed Residential Investment Current Gross Income: £5,400 pa Guide: £19,000 - £24,000

FURTHER VIEWINGS TIMES AVAILABLE. PLEASE CONTACT US ON 0121 233 5046 FOR FURTHER DETAILS



# Taylors

# the property professionals

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Sedgley 01902 880888

Also at Stourbridge and Halesowen



## LOWER GORNAL, Straits Road

FOUR DOUBLE BEDROOMS! Enviably situated upon LARGE CORNER PLOT (with extensive parking, garaging and a large car port), a gas centrally heated, double glazed detached within walking distance of the village presented in superb order comprising; hall, lounge, dining room, utility room, cloakroom, kitchen with clear breakfast room section. Gallery landing, four double bedrooms, bathroom. Gardens. EPC:D. SEDGLEY

Offers in the region of £311,950



## WALL HEATH, Brook Street

BACKING ONTO FIELDS, this SUBSTANTIAL and DECEPTIVE DETACHED FAMILY HOME offers an IMMACULATE 'SHOW HOME' style layout, all INCREDIBLY SPACIOUS and BEAUTIFULLY RE-APPOINTED including FOUR LARGE DOUBLE BEDROOMS. The property is set back beyond the LARGE DRIVEWAY, GARAGE and enjoying a BEAUTIFULLY LAID OUT REAR GARDEN. EPC D

New price



## WOLVERHAMPTON, Camberley Crescent, Ettingshall Park

NO UPWARD CHAIN, Situated in the popular area of Ettingshall Park, Wolverhampton, this detached family home offers great potential. With entrance porch, and hallway, this property also boasts central heating, double glazing, living room, dining room, fitted-kitchen, THREE/FOUR bedrooms, roof space (with windows), family bathroom, integral garage, rear garden, drive and garden to front, EPC:TBA SEDGLEY

Offers in the region of £229,950



# SEDGLEY, 'Algar Grange', Off Dudley Road

Show Home now open for viewings (by appointment) with construction now completed, and just 4 plots still available for sale, an exciting new development of gas centrally heated, uPVC double glazed BUNGALOWS so conveniently situated for Sedgley's Bull Ring & all associated amenities. Three designs available with prices from £218,500 up to £279,000.-Further details with Agents Sedgley Office. SAP: T.B.A.

PRICES FROM £218,500



# WOODSETTON, Calder Rise

Attractive, meticulously maintained, freehold, gas centrally heated, UPVC DOUBLE GLAZED Detached in short favoured cul-de-sac. Comprising: Reception hall, fitted cloakroom, lounge, dining room, refitted kitchen with a fine range of units and integrated appliances, three bedrooms, reappointed shower room (former bathroom) lengthy garage with extensive parking, landscaped 'low maintenance' rear garden. EPC: C SEDGLEY

New price

WAS £219,000, NOW £215,000

£309.950



# COSELEY, Crowesbridge Mews

NO UPWARD CHAIN. Fantastically well presented detached home with central heating & double glazing located in popular cul-de-sac. THREE BEDROOM property is tastefully extended & benefits from porch, hallway, breakfast-kitchen, utility room, open-plan lounge, sunroom, bathroom, master bedroom with ensuite, garage/ storage, garden, driveway. EPC:C. SEDGLEY

Offers in the region of £209,950



# **DUDLEY, The Broadway**

FANTASTICALLY PRESENTED semi-detached situated on the extremely popular Broadway in Dudley. EXTENDED family home, along with central heating and double glazing also boasts, porch, entrance hall, living room, dining room, EXTENDED KITCHEN, guest W/C, sitting room, THREE BEDROOMS, bathroom, attractive enclosed rear garden, integral garage, driveway to front. NO UPWARD CHAIN. EPC: D SEDGLEY

New price

WAS £179,950, NOW £174,950



## LOWER GORNAL, Mount Close

Good sized & conscientiously maintained semi-detached is enviously situated on Mount Close in the sought after Lower Gornal area of Dudley. Benefiting from central heating and double glazing this family home also boasts; entrance hall, living room, conservatory, kitchen, utility room, THREE BEDROOMS, family bathroom with separate W/C, landscaped rear garden and driveway to front. EPC:C SEDGLEY.

Offers in the region of £165,000



## PENSNETT, Tansey Green Road

A LARGE 3 BEDROOM SEMI-DETACHED HOUSE which has been EXTENDED and RECENTLY REFURBISHED throughout, including an NEW KITCHEN and BATHROOM. The property has been REDECORATED and includes NEW CARPETS. With DRIVEWAY, GARAGE and rear garden. EPC D

New price

£157,500

# Dudley Chronicle Thursday, December 1, 2016

# the property professionals Taylors Brierley Hill Kingswinford 01384 401777

01384 265265 01902 880888

Also at Stourbridge and Halesowen



## SEDGLEY, Catholic Lane

An elegant imposing APPRECIABLY SPACIOUS gas centrally heated UPVC double/triple glazed FOUR DOUBLE BEDROOM detached on wide plot in prestigious district with PANORAMIC DISTANT VIEWS. Accommodation provides reception hall, fitted cloakroom, 24ft through lounge, formal dining room, kitchen, utility room. Gallery landing, principle bedroom with bathroom en suite, three further double bedrooms (two with wardrobes), bathroom, double garage, additional 10'3" side space and gardens rotated to the South, block paved driveway. EPC D SEDGLEY

Offers in the region of £420,000



SEDGLEY, Dumbleberry Avenue, Brownswall estate

TREMENDOUS POTENTIALI, Enviably situated, gas centrally heated, gas centrally heated & double glazed DETACHED requiring sympathetic updating in favoured district occupying a large plot comprising; porch, hall, store, lounge with bay, dining room, kitchen, lobby, lengthy utility room/store, Three bedrooms, bathroom, w.c. Large (24 ft) garage, good sized secluded constructed. rear garden. EPC: F SEDGLEY

Offers in the region of £240,000



## SEDGLEY, Dingle View

Taylors Estate Agents are delighted to offer for sale this family home situated on the much sought after Dingle View in Sedgley. Benefiting from double glazing and central heating as well as corner position, this property also boasts porch, hall, living room, kitchen-diner, THREE BEDROOMS, bathroom. Front and rear gardens, detached garage with driveway. VIEWING HIGHLY RECOMMENDED, EPC: TBA SEDGLEY

Offers in the region of £177,000



## COSELEY, Upper Ettingshall Road

Well presented detached bungalow located on the popular Upper Ettingshall Road area of Bilston. Benefiting from entrance hallway, this much improved property also boasts THREE BEDROOMS, fitted kitchen, shower-room, living room/ orangery, double glazing, central heating, enclosed rear parking, driveway to front. VIEWING HIGHLY RECOMMENDED. EPC D SEDGLEY.

Offers in the region of £154,950



**DUDLEY. Wrens Nest Road** 

EXCEPTIONALLY SPACIOUS WITH FOUR GENEROUS BEDROOMS!
- Stylish, modern, gas centrally heated, double glazed, intermediate "family home" comprising; hall, cloakroom, store, kitchen, living/dining room. To the first floor; three bedrooms bathroom, and to the second floor a superby principal bedrooms.

Offers in the region of £149,950



SEDGLEY, 3, Ettymore Road

Immediate valking distance of the Bull Ring: Gas centrally heated, double glazed two double bedroom home nearing completion to first quality specification to include hallway, cloakroom, kitchen (granfte work surfaces & various integrated appliances). living/dinling room, two bedrooms (one with wardrobe), bathroom, garden, parking to foregarden. EPC: B SEDGLEY

PRICE: £142.500



## LOWER GORNAL. The Straits

EXCEPTIONALLY STYLISH gas centrally heated double glazed semi detached miners or totage that has been significant sent detached miners or totage that has been significant features. Stuated in favoured/convenient district comprising hallway, lounge with cast "living flame fireplace, store, refitted kitchen and a CONSERVATORY beyond. Two bedrooms (principle with an extensive range of built in units) bathroom. Potential parking LENGTHY REAR GARDEH EYCE: STDGLEH.

Offers in the region of £142,500



**OUARRY BANK. Thorns Road** 

This SUBSTANTIAL & TRADITIONAL HOME oozes CHARM, and has TWO LOVELY RECEPTION ROOMS, THREE BEDROOMS as well as a DRIVEWAY Facilitating OFF ROAD PARKING. Also comprising: Well Fitted Modern Kitchen, Four Piece Bathroom and Large Garden. EPC E

£139.950



LOWER GORNAL, Summer Lane

This good sized, centrally heated, EXTENDED family home is conveniently situated in the Lower Gornal area of Dudley. Sited on a corner position, this SEM IDETACHED home also boasts; entrance hallway, living room, sitting room, kitchen, family barroom, three bedrooms, front and rear gardens, detached garage and parking, NO UPWARD CHAIN. PPC: D SEDGLEY

New price WAS £134,950, NOW £130,000



LANESFIELD, Pruden Avenue

Modernised, gas centrally heated, uPVC double glazed semi detached bungalow in popular district convenient for so many amenties. There is a through lobby approach to the accommodation which comprises; kitchen, shower room, lounge, store, two bedrooms. Good sized secluded rear garden, drive (kerb dropped), PECTBA SEDGL PECTBA SED

Offers in the region of £115,000



UPPER GORNAL, Sunnybank Road

SPACIOUS gas centrally heated UPVC double glazed semi detached WITH POTENTIAL in popular district. Having been conscientiously maintained over the years but how requiring some sympathetic updating the accommodation offering reception hall, store, through intying room, dining room, kitchen, WC, further store. Three double bedrooms, bathroom, the concern plot with sheltered rear graden. EPC Rating C. SEDGLEY.

Offers in the region £104,950



LOWER GORNAL, Temple Street

An EXTENDED/ENLARGED or control phased UPVC double plazed to be becomed of the control phased or the control p

Offers in the region of £95,000



**BROCKMOOR**, Campbell Street

This ATTRACTIVE & EXPENSIVELY APPOINTED, EXTENDED, PERIOD STYLE, TERRACE HOME oozes CHARACTER and CHARM & comprises: MODERN WELL FITTED KITCHEN, Pretty garden, White Suite Bathroom, Lounge, TWO GOOD FIRST FLOOR BEDROOMS, USEFUL UTILITY IEPC: C

£94,950



PENSNETT, Tiled House Lane

This DECEPTIVELY SPACIOUS & LARGE, THREE BEDROOM, SEMI-DETACHED HOME comprises: Hall, Lovely Lounge, MODERN BREAKFAST KITCHEN, Guests Cloakroom, THREE FIRST FLOOR BEDROOMS, Well Appointed Bathroom, Driveway & Substantial



PENSNETT, Primrose Park

An IMPRESSIVE END MEWS RETIRMENT BUNGALOW, delightfully located within this sought after and secure WARDEN CONTROLLED gated development, including beautifully maintained gardens, offering a VERY WELL PRESENTED One Double Bedroom layout with an impressive CONSERVATORY.



PENSNETT, Tiled House Lane

This WELL ARRANGED & MOST APPEALING, TWO BEDROOM, SEMI-DETACHED HOME comprises: Lounge, Spacious Breakfast Kitchen, Two Large First Floor Bedrooms, Well Appointed White Suite Modern Bathroom, Substantial Rear Garden. NO UPWARD CHAINE PC.



KINGSWINFORD, Keyes Drive

Enjoying its own PRIVATE ENTRANCE, this IMPRESSIVELY SPACIOUS FIRST FLOOR FLAT is pleasantly located upon highl sought after Charterfields, well placed for local amenities, and offers a generous one bedroom layout, plus a GARAGE to the

DEVELOPMENT PLOT



Planning consent secured to construct a three storey 3 bedroom detached dwelling of approximately 144 square metres (excluding garage) in well established residential neighbourhood. Planning application P16/1061. Viewing arrangements and further details with agents Sedgley Office

New price WAS £50,000, NOW £45,000



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- Four bedroom detached
- Kitchen, two receptions, family bathroom and

shower room.

- Driveway and Garage
  - Pleasant cul-de-sac
  - EPC Rating E









- A beautiful dormer
- IDEAL FAMILY HOME
- Set among extensive grounds
- **Excellent condition**

Three bedrooms Open plan kitchen diner

- Three/four bedrooms
- Snooker Room
- Two garages
- EPC Rating E

Driveway and Garage Pleasant cul-de-sac

· EPC Rating - D







- A 'Mucklow' Style semi-
- Well presented throughout
- THREE bedrooms
- Through Lounge dining
- Fabulous rear gardenIDEAL FAMILY HOME







Smout Crescent, Woodcross

- A well presented semi-det
- Brand new Kitchen Downstairs WC
- Three bedrooms
- Well maintained garden
- Block paved drive
- Ideal first time buy
  - Epc Rating TBC

- NO UPWARD CHAIN. Traditional style mid terrace. Located in Upper Gornal with great distant
- TWO bedrooms.

Duke Street

- Lounge, and separate dining room.

  - · Downstairs shower room.
- playroom) Communal ROOF TERRACE

  - Secure parking area
    AN IDEAL FIRST TIME BUY
  - EPC Rating C

Holborn House.

A most attractive duplex apartment Situated in the heart of Sedgley Town Uniquely designed layout over 2 floors Feature double height ceilings One bedroom and two bathrooms Another reception room (office/







Broad Gauge Way,

- A Top Floor Apartment
- Modern & Contemporary W'ton City Centre location
- Walking distance to Station
- Two double bedrooms En-suite and bathroom
- BalconyEPC Rating D

Ward Grove.

A BEAUTIFUL Bungalow

Extended Lounge

EPC Rating - D

Completely re-designed to a high standard

Open plan style kitchen area Beautiful landscaped garden



# Monument Lane,

- Monument Lane,
  A traditional style semi detached
  Close to all amenities and schools
  Ideal family home
  Lounge & conservatory
  Guest WC
  Outstanding views from rear garden
  Off road parking for up to 4 cars
  THREE bedrooms
  EPC Rating D

# THE .

Pugh Road, Woodcross

- Fugin Road, Woodcubers
  A traditional style 3 bed semi
  Close by to local schools
  Ideal family home
  Open plan kitchen diner
  Lounge & conservatory
  THREE bedrooms
  Low maintenance garden
  Viewing highly recommended
- Viewing highly recommended EPC Rating D



Parkhouse Gardens

- A well presented FLAT Open plan accommodation
- Updated and contemporary
- One double bedrooms Communal rear gardenEPC Rating - C



Skidmore Road

- BRAND NEW development
- Luxury kitchen & bathroom
- Allocated parking
- Rear gardens Ideal first time buy
- Flexible mortgages available EPC rating- B



- SOLD IN 3 DAYS A FOUR bedroom detached
- Corner plot in cul-de-sac location
- Good size kitchen and utility FOUR bedrooms and en-suite IDEAL FAMILY HOME
- EPC Rating D



Penny Royal Close, Lower Gornal

- Modern end of terrace Attractive, well presented Breakfast Kitchen

- TWO-bedroom Ideal for first time buyers Close to Milking Bank NO UPWARD CHAIN EPC Rating D









# Three-bed semi has been refurbished throughout

ROWLEY REGIS £184,950

<<<

Spacious and refurbished, this three-bedroomed semidetached house in Thorne Road, Rowley Regis, has off road parking and gardens to the front and rear.

It is for sale through Tom Giles at £184,925 with no Giles at £184,925 with no chain. A spokesman for the selling agent said: "This sale gives the opportunity to acquire a completely refurbished spacious semidetached family residence warranting full internal inspection. It includes built-in appliances in the kitchen and complete new flooring throughout." With double glazing and gas central heating, it has a porch, an entrance hall, a lounge, a dining kitchen with built-in appliances, a lobby, a cloakroom, a utility room, a storeroom, three bedrooms, a bathroom and parking to the front and gardens to front and rear.

Contact Tom Giles on 0121 5526171.



# Home needing full modernisation

# OLDBURY £104,950

Requiring full modernisation, this threebedroomed semi-detached house in Gilbert Avenue, Oldbury is for sale by formal tender.

It is being marketed by Love Your Postcode with a guide price of £104,950.

The property comprises of an entrance hallway, a lounge, a kitchen, a second reception room, outhouses, a family bathroom, front gardens, rear garden, gas central heating and double glazing. This home has access to local amenities such as retail facilities, public transport links and it is in close proximity to Oakham Primary School.

For further information, or to book that all important viewing, please call Love Your Postcode on 0800 8620873 or visit their website www.lovevourpostcode.com



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MOTORING ROAD TEST

# Dudley Chronicle Thursday, December 1, 2016

# Popular and versatile SUV — 2008

**By James Parker** 

The recently revised new Peugeot 2008 SUV that arrived in UK showrooms in the summer is in strong demand with over 40,000 existing UK customers and 500,000 produced since launch in 2013. The appetite for this model continues to rise, with sales in the first half of 2016 up 16 per cont. with 90 900 up its cold workbridge.

cent, with 99,900 units sold worldwide. The latest Peugeot 2008 SUV has recently been updated, with refreshed styling and featuring an enhanced specification.

### Enhanced

It has an even more assertive and appealing SUV design, including visual features to give it an enhanced presence; new wheel arch extensions (from Allure level), while a new vertical front grille and front and rear scuff plates (also from Allure level) confirm its robustness and are designed for everyday use.

use.
The new 'Ultimate Red' colour further epitomises the power and desirability of the new 2008 SUV.
The Access A/C, Active and Allure levels are

The Access A/C, Active and Allure levels are complemented by the new 'GT Line' model. This desirable trim level is already a very popular choice on other key Peugeot models (108, 208, 308 and 508), and adds a sporty theme throughout.

The Peugeot i-Cockpit® is unique to the Brand and embodies the driving characteristics of the Peugeot 2008 SUV, being agile, intuitive and safe.

The compact sports steering wheel offers precise steering and improved



Refreshed styling and enhanced specification



Grip Control gives the 2008 its versatility on all terrain

manoeuvrability, while the 7" multifunction colour touch screen puts all the functionality at your fingertips. In addition, the head-up instrument panel

allows driver information to be accessed without taking the eyes off the road.

Grip Control - an adapted traction system --

gives the 2008 SUV its versatility on all types of terrain.

It is combined with Mud & Snow (All-Season) tyres.

Equipment available on new Peugeot 2008 SUV includes (subject to trim level) MirrorScreen, and Carplay®, along with the

reversing camera, Active City Brake and Park Assist – a rarity in this segment.

The Euro6 engines ensure high-level driving pleasure while remaining fuel efficient. Four versions are 'Best-in-Class' in their segment, including the 1.2L PureTech 130 S&S 6-speed manual.

t. Peugeot, said: "The 2008 SUV is a distinctive and popular, practical choice with our customers, with 500,000 of them worldwide and with sales up 16 per cent in the first half of 2016. Our current retail offers bring increased appeal to an already captivating vehicle."

Mark Pickles, UK marketing director at

HONDA





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# Only £79.99 Was £149.99

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It can be powered by battery as well as via the mains adaptor. The radio displays the time and date and allows you to set up to two separate alarms. Easily portable thanks to the carry handle. Measures: 26 x 13 x 18cm. Requires 5 x C batteries for portable function.

D1840 2 x C Batteries £3.49



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# Only £29.99 Was £69.99

Perfect for family meals and one-pot cooking, this large 3.96 litre capacity non-stick pan is a great addition to your kitchen cookware. Sautéing and frying meals has never been easier with the non-stick ceramic interior. The pan is made from induction-compatible stainless steel with a glass lid. It is dishwasher-safe and suitable for use on all hob types. Use in the oven without the lid. Comes with a five-year quarantee, Diameter: 30cm.

D8552 Viners Sauté Pan

Only £39.99

9, 91/2, 10, 11, 12, 13



# **Wooden Turntable** Converter



# Only £59.99 Was £119.99

This wooden turntable with built in speakers allows you to enjoy all of your old records and convert them to digital files on your PC via a USB cable. Play and transfer your 33, 45, and 78 RPM records, there's even an RCA output jack so you can connect the turntable to your home stereo system. The turntable comes with Audacity software that will guide you through the steps to convert into digital; the software will automatically separate the tracks into individual files. Dimensions: L42.5cm x W36.5cm x H10.5cm. Weight: 3.3kg. USB cable: 142cm. Adaptor cable: 155cm. Mains operated.

**G0203 Wooden Turntable** 



# Telescopes



# From only £34.99

This 50x600 refractor telescope provides crystal clear detail. Featuring a 600mm focal length, 50mm aperture, two eyepieces and a useful 2x24 finder scope. Its aluminium tripod adjusts from 78cm to 132cm in height. Measures L59 x W42cm.

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domestic repairs & services

SAME DAY Low Cost Repairs Washers, Dryers Electric Cookers 12 mths guarantee. 07850 355552

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DRAIN AND SEWER ockages cleared fast. Call Fast Clean: 01902 736424.

driveways & patios

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> electrical services

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fencina

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10 bays or quanty concerned posts, gravel boards

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LANDSCAPING

aas fittina

# GAS **SERVICES**

- Landlord Certificates Gas Leaks Traced

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READERS ARE ADVISED
To check that anyone
carrying out any Gas work
is Gas Safe Registered.
It is an offence under the Gas
Safety (Installation and Use)
Regulations 1998 to carry out
gas work in the UK without
being on the Gas Safe Register.

A BOILER BREAKDOWN COOKER, FIRE,

FITTED-SERVICÉD-REPÁIREI Landlord certs.
All areas covered.
J&E Heating.
Call John: 01902 562664

/07969 687832 autterina

# PROPERTY SOLUTIONS

A\*1 GUTTERING cleaned, repaired, replaced, facias/ soffits, UPVC washdowns, all roofing, epointing work. Free quotes, 8am-8pi 01902 722447

handyman services

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All work guaranteed, Most trades

ClassifiedAds



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I average around 1 to 2 phone calls a day from stomers as a direct result my Classified Advertising. I am very happy with my response levels.

01902 319 191

Brought to you by Express & Star LOCK AND CARPENTRY plumb ing, plastering, slabbing and roofing 01902 683100 or 07935 906384.

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**ClassifiedAds** 

CENTRA () HEAT

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# HELPED ME..

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SJH PLUMBING AND HEATING

CENTRA

£200 OFF/Trade in old boiler

01902 845211

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STEVES PLASTERING SERVICE

plumbers

G M PLUMBING SERVICES Com-plete Bathrooms, Kitchens, Taps Showers,Blockages 07976 012468

plumbing &

We are really happy advertising package

Martin -Centra Heat FOR GREAT BUSINESS

Brought to you by Express & Star

roofing

# ONE STOP ROOFING

The Flat Roofing Specialists Specialising in: Felt, Fibreglass & Tiling, Repointing & Chimney

FOR 1 MONTH ONLY GET YOUR FLAT ROOF REPLACED WITH FIBREGLASS FOR THE SAME PRICE AS A FELT ROOF & GUARANTEED **FOR 25 YEARS** 

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Pitched roofing & lead work. Flat roofing, rubber & felt. All repointing. Free quotes. 01902 820996

15% SF ROOFING OFF & GUTTERING

Call Sean 01902 829158 8am to 8pm MG ROOFING Flat roofs, tiling, roo repairs, fascias and gutters. Cal 01902 238989 / 07580 465449.

removals A & M CHEAP **REMOVALS** 

Local Careful Firm Full or Part loads **Call Don:** 07749 941319

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12 years experience.
SINGLE ITEMS TO FULL LOADS.
CAL OR DISTANCE. FULLY INSURED.
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CALL PETE - MAN WITH A VAN, Removals, clearances, large/small. 01902 741546, 07899 635852. KINGS OF THE ROAD REMOVAL Single Items/Full loads from £20. OAP discount. Andy 0.7512 395370, Keith 0.7545 618231.

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We move anything.

Professional service 45 years' experience DFS approved and we take the stress away Please call: 07966 281957

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**AN ABSOLUTE AFFORDABLE** 

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MTSKIPS & GRAB HIRE

Open 7 days a week

07920 88 57 74 or 01384 24 09 5

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CASTLE SKIP HIRE Mini, midi and

Also available mini digger with driver 01384 237577 01902 405745

large skips

**ClassifiedAds** 

07719 671845



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in the Express & Star

we are really busy!

**CLASSIFIEDS** 

It definitely works for us! Grinsells Skip Hire.

R GREAT BUSINESS RESULTS CAL 01902 319 191

BIG JOHN MOVES ROLL.
No Skips, we load, fast friendly service, 25 Lister Rd, Dudley DY2 8JR, Est 35 years, 01384 232359.

STONES SKIP HIRE 0121 557 1480 / 07886 721875 www.stonesskiphire.co.uk

# music shop

YAMAHA PSR E423 Keyboard, home use only, good condition, ideal Christmas present. £260ono. 01902 497824.

Repairs, Fascias and Guttering.

(Felt only 10 year guarantee)

full time - general

East, friendly service All areas covered All sizes Same day service

**Freephone** 

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STTREE SERVICES All tree work carried out Call: 01902 884705 / 07841 842824

## upholstery

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# equestrian corner

ALL READERS are advised to check if Horses have the required

# guns & dogs

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS
Advertisers must ensure that they meet all necessary legal requirements for owning and using guns.

# pets corner

### GREYHOUNDS MAKE **WONDERFUL PETS** All neutered innoculated

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RGT Wolverhampton RGTWolves

# NOTICE TO READERS

Please be aware that when purchasing a puppy there are some simple guidelines you can follow to ensure that you are not purchasing from a Puppy Farmer.

1. Try to ensure you visit the puppy whilst it is still with it's Mother.

Duppy willist it is still will it is still will it is puppy from any other location tinan that of the breeder.

3. Ensure that you are given any KC documentation, if pedigree Whilst Midland News Association publications take great care to avoid publication of advertisements from Puppy Farmers we cannot accept any liability should readers purchase from this kind of establishment.

## KIND HOMES NEEDED

RUSTY 7 year old Jack Russell boy, rough coated

LADY 5vr old Jack Russell girl POPPY 9mnth old adorable jack russell x chihuahua

COCO 3 year old Jack Russell x Patterdale

All of these beautiful dogs have got super temperaments. Ideal little Family dogs.

01384 252158. TOY COCKER Poo puppies, ready for new homes, first vaccinations, full health check done, 4wks insur-ance, from £695. 07943 515114

WANTED. Aviary birds for large private aviary. Also pigeons and poultry for beginner and parrot for house pet. 07970 485491.

# **Express & Star**

# THIS SPACE COULD BE

PROMOTING

## BUSINESS

Every day our customers get a great response from Classified Advertising.

So could you by calling our friendly experienced Sales 01902 319191.



# business opportunities

READERS are recommended to take appropriate professiona advice before entering any obli-cations

# business directory

## accountants

ACCOUNTANCY SERVICES for Small Business. Competitive Rates. Call 01902 882600

### commercial premises

UNITS AND OFFICE SPACE to let in Walsall. Easy Terms. Ashm Properties 0121 520 5318.



# to let

A 1 BED FLAT PARK VILLAGE 2 Bed flat Fallings Park. 1 bed Chapel Ash DSS ok 01902 686605

NOTICE TO READERS

Readers are advised to seek independent legal advice before entering into any financial commitments.

NOTICE TO READERS It offence under the Accommodation Agencies Act 1953, for an Agency to charge a fee simply for the regis-tration of your requirements and/or supplying particulars of premises to let.

BEDSITS, TETTENHALL AREA Fully furnished. CH. No DSS 07976 263435 / 01902 700 028.

SMART ROOMS in shared house Netherton, from £85 pwk Single £95 pwk DBL inc bills. No DSS 07970 717139 or 07940 116130.

## overseas property

NOTICE TO READERS Readers are advised to seek independent legal advice before entering into any financial commitments. properties wanted

# 100% of purchase price

You agree the price, we buy the house.

• NO AGENTS FEES • COMPLETION TO SUIT YOU • FREE SOLICITORS • ANY HOUSE, ANY CONDITION

800 999 999

 Repossessions buy your

# ClassifiedAds BUY LOCAL, SELL LOCAL



# CLASSIFIEDS ME...

le have been advertising in the Express & Star and Chronicles or over 20 years and consider it a key part of our business with ne regular flow of calls, which our advertising generates.

01902 319 191

DAYS

# Need to sell your home fast?

We can help you make a fresh start

you can clear your debts and make a fresh start

ALL CIRCUMSTANCES CONSIDERED COMPLETE ON DATE TO SUIT FREE VALUATION AND LEGALS

FREE FRIENDLY ADVICE LOCAL COMPANY

# MARION | PROPERTY SOLUTIONS

01384 930 979 OUR LINES ARE OPEN 24/7

## ClassifiedAds BUY LOCAL, SELL LOCAL



CLASSIFIEDS HELPED

"I am really pleased with the response I get from my Classified Advertising!"

01902 319 191

Brought to you by Express & Star

# **Home Cash Buyer** Sell today, sign today, complete when u wish

£££ RENT BACK OPTIONS £££

# **Houses / Land Required**

Ring Paul 24/7 Local 07870 341 089

Sandwell area: Call 0121 696 4154 Walsall & Cannock area: Call 01922 432049 Wolverhampton: Call 01902 489901 www.homecashbuyer.co.uk

# ClassifiedAds BUY LOCAL, SELL LOCAL



IT WORKS FOR ME

We have been advertising in the Express & Star and Chronicles or over 20 years and consider it a key part of our busing the regular flow of calls, which our advertising genera

01902 319 191

A LOCAL BUYER pays full market value and more for your property. Call Rick 07729 297901

Iobs

# building & construction

STEEL ERECTORS Exper steel erectors required to join a structural steelwork company based in Dudley. Duties to include working from drawings, marking out working from drawings, marking out and on site welding/snagging/modifications. Candidates must have a skilled steel erectors CSCS card and preferably CSCS/IPAF cards. Permanent, full time position with good rates. Please contact Rob or Revin on 01384 258400.

# engineering

STEEL ERECTION SITE
FOREMAN Experienced steel
rection site foreman required to
join structural steelwork company
based in Dudley. Must hold site
foreman/site supervisor skilled
foreman/site supervisor skilled
site steel erecting projects.
Candidates should have lift
supervisor, IPAF/CPCS cards and
SSSTS qualifications. Permanent
SSSTS qualifications. Permanent
plus company van. Please call Rob
or Kevin on 01384 285400.

WELDER/FABRICATORS
REQUIRED
Using MIG/TIG
processes coded
Experience of manufacturing
pressure vessels preferred
Permanent full time job
40 hours per week
Holidays 30 days PA
Negotiable rate of pay
depending on experience
AJ Metal Products Ltd,
Bevan Road, Brierley Hill
West Midlands DY5 3TF
Tel 01384 74301
Tel 01384 74301
ajmetalproducts @
lineone.net

# EXPERIENCED FINANCIAL CONTROLLER

CONTROLLER required by Netherton based client. Full time position in excellent modern office accommodation. In addition to maintaining the day to day records on Sage, the successful candidate will be expected to prepare daily bank reconcliitations, deal with purchase and sales ledger enquiries and credit control. Send CV in first instance to: karenbennett@

karenbennett@
wilkestranter.co.uk
or post to:
Mirs Karen Bennett,
Wilkes Tranter & Co Ltd,
Brook House, Moss Grove,
Kingswinford, DY6 9HS

Require

# **UPHOLSTERY FABRIC**

**EXPERIENCE IN LAY CUTTING ESSENTIAL** Also we reauire

# **EXPERIENCED SEWING MACHINISTS** and UPHOLSTERERS

Excellent rates of pay

Contact Karen Billingham on 01384 400240 Ultra Furniture Ltd, Building 66, 3rd Avenue, The Pensnett Estate, Kingswinford. DY6 7GA

Career Change?





Inshore Support provides care and support for people with complex and challenging behaviour, our services are based in West Midlands Area.

## **SUPPORT WORKERS**

We welcome applicants who are looking for a career change as an extensive training package is provided — We also welcome applicants who wish to further their career within this specialist field. Commencing salary based on 35 hours & sleep in duties £15,912 rising to £16,640

## **SENIOR SUPPORT WORKERS**

WEDNESD JOBSDAY

# **Express & Star**

# BE A LOCAL

Sales Relationship Merchandiser

Do you have an eye for detail, are you self - motivated, enthusiastic and are able to

communicate effectively and with confidence. team helping to grow audience, strengthen the relationship with retailers, readers and ensure the brand experience is positive.

Working within a busy customer focused environment, the successful applicant will work as part of a team, in designated territories, you will be required to ensure that all our titles are available, in key strategic positions to maximise response and exposure.

Previous sales or merchandising experience in the FMCG market is desirable but not essential. The ability to react quickly and positively to a wide variety of situations is required. A professional attitude must be displayed at all times. You must have a full current driving licence, transport will be provided. In return we offer full training and support, an annual salary of £8,360,25 days

holiday per year and enrolment into the company pension schem The position is 20 hours per week worked across 5 days between Monday-Saturday, weekends and Bank Holiday working will be

if you would like to be considered for this role please send your cv and covering letter to HR Department Midland News Association, Queen Street, Wolverhampton WVI IES



# For their factory on the Pensnett Estate

**CUTTERS** 

and working conditions.



# We are recruiting now!

2 years' experience & NVQ level 3 (or working to based on 35 hours week & sleep in duties. B/H Incentives • Night Rate Enhance

Please call our main office on 01384 421460 for an application pack.

# manufacturing

STEEL WELDERS Experienced steel welders required to join struc-tural steelwork company in Dudley. Permanent, full time position with good rates of pay. Please call Gary on 01384 258400.

# BARGAIN

Motoring

cars over £1500

BMW 118D SPORT

62 reg., 5-dr. black.

2 owners, 50,000 miles

full history, cheap to run,

£30 tax only,

all BMW refinements,

very good condition,

must see bargain

£6,700

Reg HK62 FVB

FIAT PUNTO FLX 1.2 02 Reg., gold in colour, 2dr, manual, 12 months MoT, very good condition.

07718 622950.



1.4 ACTIVE D, 3-dr, 75,000 miles, SH April 2017, e/w, e/m Bluetooth, CD player.

£2.150 ono.

FORD FIESTA TITANIUM

1.4 (2010), 42,000 Miles, Black, 10 months MOT, Service History, Top spec Titanium Model, loads of extras, 4 new tyres, tinted windows, USB

£4.750 ono

07841 500297

FORD FIESTA ZETEC

£3,000 onc



2009, 58,300 miles, 3 door, petrol, electric mirrors, dual zone climate control, fsh, long MoT, cruise control, panoramic glass roof. Fab car, very reluctant sale.

£4,200 ono. 07730 681639

# IMMACULATE

## JAGUAR XTYPE 2.0 DIESEL

54 reg, very very low miles MoT, unmarked leather interior

£2.100 ono.



LAND ROVER
FREELANDER TD4 SE S/W
2 litre diesel, 2004, 104k miles,
silver, 12 months MoT serviced, very good spec, heated
seats, a/c, good condition.
22,100 ono.
07740 418668.



MERCEDES E320CD 57 reg., 131,000 miles

immaculate inside and out, Sat Nav, drives excellent

> £4,500 07885 772238.

NISSAN NOTE 1.6 ACENTA

5 door, lady driver. Economicle reliable, 100,000 miles.

£1,495.

01902 747180.

07774 898966.



# PEUGEOT 206 1.4

2005, 15,500 miles, Blue Electric windows Electric mirrors. Air Con. FSH. Alarm. MoT.

£1,700 07746 473512.



Automatic, 5-dr hatchback Grev. 9 months MoT.

Service record, 2008.

Excellent condition. £3.100 ono.

07788 453337.

RENAULT CLIO EXTREME, 2009 26,300 miles, silver, 1149cc, 2 door, very good condition, full MoT. £1,999. 07879 403302.

TOYOTA AVENSIS, 2.2. 56, 66,800 miles, Black, abs, fsh, alarm, long MoT, metallic paint, cruise control, diesel, tax, Alloys, CD, Navigation System £2,100 01384 831806.



2.0
06 reg, MoT four months, alloy wheels, silver, good tyres, good condition, 162,000 miles, PAS, navigation, lean car.

£2,000 no offers 07424 542999.



VAUXHALL TIGRA 1.4 EXCLUSIVE CONVERTABLE

09, 27,400 miles, leather interior, heated seats, service history, MoT, AC. £2,800 o.n.o. 07407 439768 or 0121 530 9905.



VOLKSWAGEN GOLF TSI

2013, 52,000 miles, abs, electric windows, air bag, electric mirrors, air con, fsh, alarm, MoT,central locking, pas, tax, CD, 18 inch alloys, gardex pack

£6,950 ono. 07746 476981.

# cars under £1500

# ADVERTISERS ARE REMINDED

REMINDED
that the Business Advertisements (Disclosure) Order of
1977 requires that advertisements must clearly
differentiate between Private
and Trade.

# BARGAIN

# BMW 318 TI COMPACT

1998 152,000 miles

Red MoT End Jan 17

£275. 07825 394108 Kingswinford.



## FORD KA

58 plate

New MoT, EW, PAS, CL, two owners.

£995.

07449 431723.



HONDA CIVIC 1.6

2001, 81,300 miles, Immaculate example for its age. MOT June 2017, Dealer Service History, Full Leather, electric sunroof.

First view will buy! £650 ono 07805975615



MINI COOPER MINI COOPER
2002 reg but leaving private
plate on. Air con, great looking
car, some service history.
101,000 miles, MoT Oct 2017.
£1,395.
Telephone 07847 893520
Coseley.

# AUTOMATIC

NISSAN ALMERA 1.6

S Reg., automatic, blue, extremely reliable, 107,000 miles, MoT'd to April 2017.

£375

07718 622950.

# BARGAIN PEUGEOT 106 1600CC

P reg, green, MoT till July sunroof, genuine sale.

£350 ono.



PEUGEOT 106 INDEPENDENCE

2001, Y reg, 17,000 genuine miles, green, air bag, MoT, one owner from new, sunroof, immaculate condition.

£850. 07767 894904.

# MUST BE SEEN

PEUGEOT 206 COUPE

02 plate, Mot, many new parts, 39,401 miles.

£750 ono.

07575 569077.

# BARGAIN

PEUGEOT 206
HDI 1.4 DIESEL
2004.5 door.
E.W. PAS. A/C.
CD player, 89,000 miles.
(Cam belt replaced after 70,000 miles).
£30 year road tax.
12 months MoT.
£750.
07817 073369.

CONVERTIBLE

RENAULT MEGANE CABBIOLET CONVERTIBLE 2005, 55,000 genuine miles, fsh, 12 months MoT, gold, RCL, automatic lights and wipers, alloys, ABS, EW, EM.

Very good condition. £850. o.n.o. 07506 885912



VAUXHALL ASTRA 2009, 61,500 miles, blue, abs, alarm, long MoT, central locking, pas, diesel. £3,599 ono. 07964 723540.

# BARGAIN

# VAUXHALL ASTRA

5-dr Hatchback, 1.8 petrol,

red, S reg, ABS, alarm, electric windows and door locks. CD / radio, excellent runner and mechanics,

MoT March 2017. £250. 07733 383592

# MUST BE SEEN

VAUXHALL CORSA 1.4 S Reg., silver, 5dr hatchback, EW, radio cassette, MoT to November 2017, nice tidy car, 64k miles.

Bargain £695.

01562 752815.

VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 2002, 89,000 Miles, Black, electric windows, fsh, alarm, MoT, pas, tax, Stereo, CD £650.00 07872 305725.



VOLVO 940S ESTATE 1993, 92,000 miles, blue, abs, electric windows, air bag, MoT, auto, central locking, pas, 7 seats.

£900 ono. 01902 883829.

# classic cars

WANTED, CLASSIC Cars. Private cash buyer.Instant cash settlecash buyer.instant cash settle-ment. Any age. Any condition. 01630 652993 or 07773 462797

# commercial vehicles

P600, 2005, 1.9D, white ply wood / lined, air con, new front discs and pads, FSH. 90,000 miles. £1,695. ono. 01384 390889.

# driving tuition

Drive All Seasons
Lessons Starting FROM
5 Lessons £50
10 Lessons £89
Manual & Automatic Free Unlimited Theory 07517 845477



# AMAZING OFFER 5 lessons £40 10 lessons £80. £20 an hour there scrap vehicles

OUR ADVERTISERS are reminded that it is an offence under the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013 to buy scrap cars/metal for cash.



A BETTER PRICE

commercials. Spares for sale.
NINE LOCKS VEHICLE
DISMANTI FRS I TD Brierley Hill 01384 76566 or 70553. Evenings 75397. DY5 3JZ. ABC AUTO SALVAGE
WANTED URGENT
Scrap & MOT Failures Best
Prices Paid ELV Registered
Spares Always Available
0121 557 0800 or
0121 557 0400.
Oldbury Area.

# vehicles wanted

CROWN MOTORS guarantee bes price for your unwanted cars/vans 07903 549849, buyer will call.

spares & accessories

clutches / brakes / gearboxes

# **A CLUTCH** CHANGE MOBILE

Citroen C1, C2, C3 Hyundai 110 Toyota Yaris Clios & Micras Ring for quotes on

30 yrs experience ALL AREAS COVERED **Call Bob** 01384 251328 07972 169554

# anytime spares/parts

BATTERIES FROM £34.95 Corsa, Fiesta, Focus, Saxo. 3 Year Guarantee. Wolves Hire 01902 746723, WV6 0LE



# public & legal notices

LEGAL / PUBLIC NOTICES
For convenience you may fax any advertising requirements to Marie Hogg on 01902 713146 or email marie.hogg@expressandstar.co.uk (remember to include a name/contact number for confirmation of receipt)

**ALERTING** 

To find out more about advertising in the Express & Star call 01902 31 31 31

**POTENTIAL** 

**ADVERTISERS** 

# Personals

### personal

**ADULT CINEMA** We're still here, we were the first, the best and we'll be here after all the rest! The Foxy Lady 01902 490898

# GENTLEMENS DANCE BAR OPENING SOON 01902 405522 ATTRACTIVE MALE 37 If you are looking for a genuine, honest, caring male who is fun to be around, then look no further!

I enjoy cross country biking, bowling, cinema, meals out, walks, holidays etc new to Bushbury area and would like to meet a like minded mature lady aged 29 to 44 years for friendship hopefully leading to relationship.

Genuine replies only. Poto appreciated (returned).

Box Number C20632;
Express and Star.



# WOLVERHAMPTON Would you like to make new friends, meeting up frequently, easy going friends sharing their varied interests eg walking, coffee, outings, arts and crafts, etc, etc Box Number P20629, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES. LOCAL LADIES Available & looking for Fun in your area. Call to hook up (no text) Tel: 0700 8026 348.

SEMI RETIRED GENT Medium build, no ties, enjoys music, countryside, meals in or out, days out and holidays, WLTM nice slim / medium lady 45 - 65, with a good sense of humour and young outlook Box Number P20634,

# Express and Star, Queen Street. Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

general HAVE YOU CHECKED your advertisement today? We would respectfully remind advertisers that it is their responsibility to inform the publishers of any mistakes or inaccuracies on the first day of publication.

Express & Star



**Buy and** 

sell with

**ClassifiedsAds** 

1. Visit our ClassifiedAds website

www.classifiedads.expressandstar.co.uk



2. Call our Classified sales team on **01902 317 878** 



3. Self Serve -Create your own advert in print and online - visit: bookanad.expressandstar.co.uk

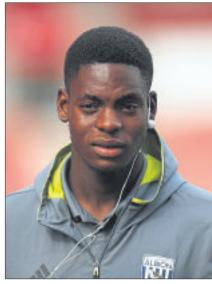
# ClassifiedAds

# BUY LOCAL, SELL LOCAL

Brought to you by **Express & Star** 







Albion prospect Jonathan Leko was on the shortlist



Bethan Rees of Stafford Athletics Club was another up for the Aspiring Talent title

Unsung hero - Wyrley Juniors chairman Keith Hardy

# Sporting heroes listed for community awards

A LONG-serving junior football club chairman and a teenage Premier League star were among the nominees for the West Midlands Community Sports

SPORTING FEATURE

By Matt Maher

Awards taking place this week.

Taking place at Villa Park last night (Wednes-

Taking place at Villa Park last night (Wednesday), the awards were set up with the goal of recognising sports clubs, projects and individuals making a difference in their community. The highlight was the BBC Midlands Sport Unsung Hero category with Keith Hardy, the chairman of Wyrley Juniors, one of three nominated for the prize. Hardy was selected alongside Richard Brough, from Handsworth Grammar School Old Boys Water Polo and David Finney from Redditch's Bridge Swimming Club. The winner will be given the chance to win the national unsung hero prize at the BBC Sports Personality of the Year awards in Liverpool.

Formed in 1982, Wyrley Juniors are one of the biggest junior set-ups in the country, fielding more than 60 teams, both male and female, in a variety of age groups.

# Recognition

Hardy has played a huge role in the club's success and is delighted to see the Juniors, who were the FA's Community Club of The Year in 2011, receive further

recognition.
"I was shocked, first of all when I found out I had been nominated," he said. "And then pleasantly surprised. I am pleased because it is recognition for the club and what it has achieved over the past 30-odd years. No-one who is involved in grassroots football is in it for personal awards, it's all about the development of the kids and the club."

Albion striker Jonathan Leko was up for the Aspiring Talent Award. The 17-year-old, originally from the Democratic Republic of Congo, made his break-

"The standard is always high in the West Midlands Community Sport Awards, but this year it has been particularly difficult to select a shortlist.

through into the Baggies first team early last season. Stafford Athletics Club's javelin star Bethan Rees and Darlaston boxer Benjamin Whittaker were also

and Darlaston boxer Benjamin Whittaker were also among the nominees.

Nominated in the Community Club Award was Stourbridge-based Mums on the Run, a group which aims to get mothers active while raising money for charity. They were honoured at the Black Country Sport & Physical Activity Awards, which were presented by Olympic gymnast Kristian Thomas.

Also recognised is Run for Joel, a fundraising event held in the memory of Tunisia terror attack victim Joel Richards. Attracting more than 1,000 participants when it took place at Sandwell Valley Country Park in September, it has been nominated for the Community Project Award and was also honoured at the Black Country Sport & Physical Activity Awards. Cannock-based Real Girls were shortlisted for the same category.

same category.

Sally-Ann Chambers, head coach at Tipton-based
Midrange Netball Club, was one of six nominees for
community coach of the year. Akil Maylor, from Wolverhampton's Rise Up Yoga, was nominated in the
Power of Sport Award, which recognises an individual

whose life has been significantly improved or changed thanks to a more active lifestyle.

The awards are organised by six county sports partnerships across the region. Chris Child, chairman of the WMCSA and chief executive of Energize Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin, said: "The standard is always high in the West Midlands Community Sport Awards but this year it has been particularly difficult. Awards, but this year it has been particularly difficult to select a shortlist.

"These awards are not just about recognising the best sporting talent – although there are some notable achievements across the finalists including Paralympic medals, national and world championships. In-stead, they are designed to showcase the dedication and commitment shown by so many people in order to help make a difference through the power of sport.

to help make a difference through the power of sport.

"All of the finalists have already been named as winners in their own local County Sports Partnership awards and they can be incredibly proud to have made the final shortlist."

Nominees were: Community Club Award: Coundon Court FC, Ellesmere College Titans Swimming Club, Stouthridge Mums On The Run, Tamowth Boxing Club. Women's Boxing Club (Birmingham), Worcester Newton County County Club (Birmingham), Worcester World Fee Active (Effect), Bir Birmingham Bikes

Tamworth Boxing Club. Women's Boxing Club (Birmingham), Worcester Netball Club.

Community Project Award: Be Active (Telford), Big Birmingham Bikes, Engagel (Coventry), Run For Joel (Black Country), Feal Girls (Cannock), The Core Skate (Hereford)

Community Coach of the Year: Alan Bircher (Ellesmere College Titans Swimming Club, Sally-Ann Chambers (Midrange Netball Club, Tipton), Job King (Coventry Wheelchair Racing Club), Jason Lowe (Women's Boxing Club, Birmingham), David Rigby (Kidsgrove Cricket Club), Mark Stowe (Worcester Swimming Club, David Rigby (Kidsgrove Cricket Club), Mark Stowe (Worcester Swimming Club), Sally Stowe (Worcester Swimming Club, Agardian Stowe), Asphring Talent Award: Jonathan Ley Chambers Stower (Worcester Swimming Club), Bethan Rees (Stafford Athetics Club), Adam Summers (Astons Kickboxing Academy, Shrewsbury), Benjamin Whittaker (Firewalker Boxing Club, Darlaston).

Power of Sport Award: Liv Boucher (Run Like A Girl, Warwick), Darren Ford (Inclusively); Fit Project, Yousef Khirara (O'Dell's Amateur Boxing Club, Birmingham), Akil Maylor (Rise Up Yoga, Wolverhampton), Ian Nash (Redditch Boxing Club), BBC Midlands Sports Unsung Hero Award: Richard Brough (Handsworth Grammar School Old Boys Water Polo), David Finney (The Bridge Swimming Club, Redditch), Keith Hardy (Wyrley Juniors FC).

# Final whistle



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# **Albion starlet joins unsung** heroes on awards shortlist

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# Glassboys

put visitors to the sword

Stourbridge 5 Workington 0 SUPERB Stourbridge warmed up for the FA Cup clash with Northampton this weekend by putting five past Working-ton – with all goals coming in the first 27 minutes.

27 minutes.

Dangerman Matt Dodd was at the heart of Stourbridge's early onslaught and soon made his presence felt when he cut inside Workington defender Gari Rowntree and was tripped as he raced through on goal.

Referee Sarah Garratt had no hesita-

Keteree Saran Garratt had no nesita-tion in pointing to the penalty spot and the league's leading marksman Luke Benbow duly slotted home. Further chances went begging before Stourbridge made it 2-0 on 15 minutes. Dodd left three Workington players trail-ing in his wake before picking out Jor-dan Archer with a pimoint cross to head

ing in his wake before picking out Jordan Archer with a pinpoint cross to head home his first Glassboys goals.

It was 3-0 on 20 minutes when Jack Duggan headed Leon Broadhurst's freekick against the underside of Workington's crossbar. The ball bounced down and was partially cleared straight back to Duggan who fired home at the second attempt.

The dynamic Dodd set up a fourth goal just three minutes later, cutting through

just three minutes later, cutting through a beleaguered defence and crossing for the unmarked Kayelden Brown to con-

the unmarked Kayelden Brown to convert at the far post.

Stourbridge struck a fifth goal on 27 minutes when Broadhurst lobbed a sublime pass over Workington's defence for Benbow to bury home a spectacular goal with a first-time volley.

with a first-time volley.

Stourbridge could have increased the lead further when Brown blazed wide on 52 minutes with only Workington goal-keeper Aaran Taylor to beat. Workington spurned the chance of a consolation when Rob Simpson shot meekly at sboys goalkeeper Matt Gould.

# **Boxing club at the** double in regional competition finals

DUDLEY'S Priory Park Boxing Club will definitely have a double presence in the National Association of Boys and

Girls Clubs Championships semi-finals.

The Priory Road gym got two out of three through the last of the West Midlands finals held at the Triumph Social

lands finals held at the Triumph Social Club in Coventry.

Former national champion James Mongan and club-mate Jee Johal face last four clashes at the Croxteth Leisure Centre in Liverpool on Saturday.

They both feature in Class A, for fighters born in 2001. Mongan is at 48kg, with Johal at 60kg.

However, another Priory Park fighter, Rahmatullah Sher, battled in vain against the useful Liam Hughes, from Exhall in Coventry, before going down on a split at 60kg in Class B (born 2000).

Ethan Collins, of Brooklands in Dudley, lost a box-off on a split at the regional semi-final stage on a split to Kaash But-

ley, lost a lost-oil on a split at the regional semi-final stage on a split to Kaash But-tery, from Tom Lowe in Stoke-on-Trent. Collins' Brooklands club-mate Paige Goodyear may have to go up to 66kg to take on Carlisle's Brodie Stephenson in a female Class B straight national final.

# **Hole load of preparation for showdown**



Andrew Whitlock, left, and Richard Copsey

ENVILLE golf pro Richard Copsey has prepared on both sides of the Atlantic for his shot at winning the £25,000 Golfplan Insurance PGA-Pro Captain Challenge grand final.

Copsey, who is teaming up with club captain Andrew Whitlock in the 36-hole final, put in 80 holes of practice over three days at Saunton, Dev-on before jetting off to Orlando for warm weather training around the courses of Lake Nona.

And, while it sounds like a well-planned build And, while it sould have a wei-planned build up for the season ending showdown in Spain, Copsey insists it was just a coincidence. He said: "We always head over to America for some golf at

this time of year. It is just fortunate that it has fallen when it did.

fallen when it did.

"I am not a fan of cold weather and we have a friend at Lake Nona which is the reason we go."

It will mean a smooth switch from the heat of Orlando to the heat of Lumine Mediterranea Beach & Golf Community in Spain for the competition that began yesterday (Wednesday).

Copsey and club captain Whitlock made home advantage pay in the qualifier, shooting a 10 under round at Enville to ease into the final.

# EAM DISPLA ES DK HOM

IN a true team performance, this was the best since DK had played since Neil Shillingford took over as Director of Rugby at the start of last season.

The opening minutes were not a reflection of what was to come, though, as DK looked fragile

what was to come, though, as DK looked fragile in defence and Newport, raced to a 12-0 lead. DK steadied the ship and, after Nic Adams pulled a try back, Duncan Tompkins hit the upright with the conversion attempt.

Scores were level when Pete Griffiths crashed over and Tompkins converted. Luke Greenwood's try completed the first half scoring. Newport were back in front when a telegraphed a pass was intercepted by Henry Vaka who was able to race the length and just get there before the recovering DK defence. Liam Holder added the conversion. added the conversion.

The game was in the balance at this point and there for the taking, but DK soon asserted their

## Maul

Adam Perks scored the next try, with the extras added by Tompkins. Moments later, an almost carbon copy, a Tommy Huggins cross kick lead to a DK line out and moments later another rolling maul saw Arran Hudson claim the try

Tompkins added to his tally with a penalty be-fore DK's best play of the afternoon saw the same player touch down in the clubhouse corner and then convert.

then convert.

Newport kept going and were after their own bonus point for four tries. Firstly, they were denied by a fantastic effort by Adams who raced back to hold up his opposite number over the line, but moments later the Shropshire side got their bonus with a try in the corner which was converted from the touchline.

By this time DK bed amptied their bonch. Ion

converted from the touchline.

By this time DK had emptied their bench, Jon McCormack making his debut in the front row for Rich Kelley who had a magnificent game, James Fildes was on in the back row and Mitch Grealey had replaced Huggins.

The skipper rounded off the scoring, following a superb run from Grealey which split the Newport defence allowing Stef Shillingford in under the posts, another two for Tompkins.

# Stepping into ring to aid friend



Reuben takes the gold medal at the World Cup meeting in Romania

A KICKBOXER will step into the ring for the final time this year to help out a friend as a season of success draws to a close. Reuben Charlesworth, of Lower Gornal, has won regional and national titles this year, as well as four world championships.

Aged 19, he travels around the world competing for his club, CMA Villains in Halesowen and has just returned from Romania where he won the World Cup.

He trains and teaches at the family martial arts centre and also gives back what he has learned over the years by tutoring at schools

in Dudley and Sandwell. Reuben has just one competition left this year, which is this week-end. He has cancelled a scheduled bout in Poland on Sunday to line up in Birmingham

Poland on Sunday to line up in Birmingham instead for a charity event for a friend who has been diagnosed with Motor Neurone Disease. All of CMA Villains will be competing along with many others clubs, who will putting on fights and exhibitions.

Spectators are welcome at North Solihull Sports Centre, Chelmsley Wood, from 11am. Admission is £10 on the door or £25 to participate. Call 0121 770 3822.

# Six-miler a real test of endurance

THERE were opportunities right on the doorstep for athletes from Dudley Kingswinford Running Club at the weekend with huge numbers travelling the short distance to Baggeridge Country Park for the Suicide 6. A colourfully named race organised by Action Heart, the cardiac charity based at Russell's Hall Hospital, over a six-mile course around Baggeridge down into Himley Park and back again, taking in some of the most testing features of both venues. features of both venues.

Within a mile of the start the course

took competitors over the trig point, a brutally thigh shredding climb, before a stretch along the clay road sapping any remaining strength from already ruined

stretch along the clay road sapping any remaining strength from already ruined legs.

Added to this another steep climb across a ridge behind Himley Hall and a waist deep water crossing to negotiate before climbing 111 steps before crossing the line, some in a heap.

Stuart Perkins was first home for the blue hoops in 40.43 taking 10th place, Dave Norman finished in 23rd in 42.57 chased over the line by Simon Hughes in 25th in 43.07.

Gary Bonner was 29th in 43.34, Mick Quane 47th in 44.28, Mark Homer was 53rd in 45.01, Stephen Parr finished 86th in 47.24, Sergej Lyubovnikov was 96th in 48.22 and Darren Marklew came home in 102nd in 48.41.

Andy Weaver came home in 49.47, Richard Tonks in 50.10, Rory Campbell in 51.26, John Sixsmith in 51.34, John Andrews in 53.06, Andy Morrison in 53.20, Karen Doy in 57.10, Malcolm Beddall in 1.00.57, Jane Campbell in 1.01.47, Lisa Kendrick in 1.02.25, Jan Burbie in 1.06.49 and Tony Noke in 1.06.51.

Amanda Hunt, Tracy Jones and Gina Collins all finished together in 1.10.28, Preston Grundy crossed the line in 1.12.34 and Chris Wood finished in 1.12.40.

# It's Valentine's Day as visitors snatch it

Halesowen Town 1 Frickley Athletic 2
NATHAN Valentine broke Halesowen's hearts with Frickley's stunning injury time winner. But no-one could begrudge Frickley their vital three points as the struggling visitors created the better openings in a game low in quality.
Kuda Muskwe caused particular danger and he went close on four occasions.

ger and he went close on four occasions.

Noel Burdett nipped in to snatch the lead for Frickley in the final seconds of the first half.

Kaiman Anderson headed Yeltz level in the 52nd minute before Valentine arrowed home a 25-yarder in the third minute of finiter through

minute of injury time.

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